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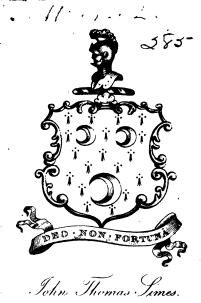
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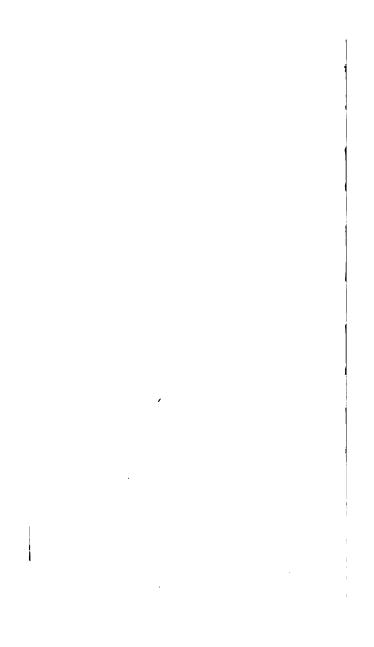


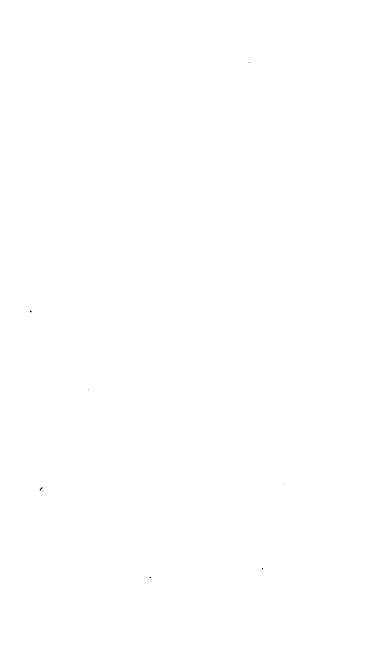




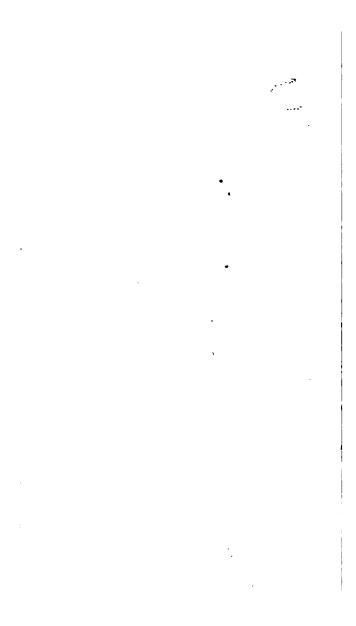


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Antiquarian

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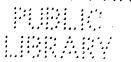
LETTER-PRESS DESCRIPTIONS.

VOL. VIII.

LONDON:

Published for the Proprietors by W. CLARKE, New Bond Street; J. CARPENTER, Old Bond Street; C. CHAPPLE, Pall Mall; J. M. RICHARDSON, Cornhill; and SHERWOOD, NEELY, and JONES, Paternoster Row, 1810

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WALTHAM CROSS,

HERTFORDSHIRE.

This elegant relic of antiquity was erected on the following occasion: Eleanor of Castile, first wife of Edward I. accompanied him, when prince of Wales, in the crusade to the Holy Land. During the campaign, the prince was attacked and wounded, in his tent, by a Saracen with a poisoned weapon. The poison was so potent as to baffle the abilities of his physicians, and he was deemed incurable. At this awful period, his amiable consort, anxious to save the life of a husband, without whom existence to her was worthless, formed the magnanimous resolution of risking her health and life to preserve his. She therefore applied her delicate lips to the rankling wound, and never ceased, night nor day, at stated times, in performing her benevolent office, till she had extracted the poison, and restored the prince to his accustomed health.

After being a faithful wife for thirty-six years to king Edward, she deceased at Herby in Lincolnshire, November 29, 1290; and the king, so ardent was his affection for her memory, erected to her honour, crosses, or statues, at Lincoln, Grantham, Stamford, Geddington, Northampton, Stoney Stratford, Dunstable, St. Alban's, Waltham, and Charing Cross, each adorned with the arms of Cas-

WALTHAM CROSS.

tile, Leon, and the earldom of Ponthieu, which by her right were annexed to the crown of England, she being the only daughter of Ferdinand III. king of Castile and Leon.

According to lord Orford's Anecdotes of Painting, vol. i. p. 28, it appears, that it was Vertue's opinion, these Crosses were constructed from the elegant designs of Peter Cavalina, a Roman sculptor.

Waltham Cross, which is the only thing remarkable in the hamlet to which it gives name, stands at the corner of the Falcon Inn, forming a point to the read from Cheshunt to Waltham Abbey.

The Society of Antiquaries have twice interested themselves in preserving this curious monument from farther decay. In 1721 posts were placed round it, to protect it from injury; and in 1757 lord Monson, lord of the manor of Cheshunt, at the request of the Society, signified by Dr. Stukely, surrounded the base with brickwork. An attempt was made, within a few years, to remove the whole into the park at Theobalds; but the materials were found so decayed, that the design was abandoned, and the Cross suffered to remain undisturbed, to await the unavoidable shocks of age.

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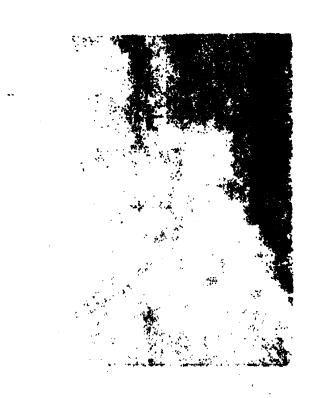


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HERTFORD.

THE origin of Hertford is uncertain; it is supposed to have been a principal residence of our Saxon kings; but whether so or not, it was of sufficient consequence in the reign of Alfred the Great to give name to the shire, and has ever since continued to be the county town.

The castle at Nertford was first built by Edward the Elder, son of Alfred the Great, in the ninth year of his reign, to resist the continued incursions of the Danes. It appears that the same king nearly rebuilt the town, which they had despoiled and ruined, and it became flourishing under the protecting influence of its castle. Peter de Valoines was made governor of this castle by William the Conqueror, and was succeeded by his son Roger; but for want of male heirs the government came to Robert Fitzwalter, who married the heiress of the Valoines' family, and claimed the possession as his right, in defiance of the endeavours of king Stephen, who however succeeded in alienating this as well as other of the barons' castles, and Richard de Montfichet was made governor; but he selling the castle to king John for 100 marks, Robert Fitzwalter was restored to his legitimate possession; who being superseded, the custody of the castle was committed to the care of Walter de Godarvil, knt. by whom it was bravely defended against Louis, dauphin of France, but was at

HERTFÖRD.

last compelled to surrender. Robert Fitzwalter applied to the dauphin, and once more expected the government, but was not permitted to resume it. The castle was afterwards given up to Henry III. from which period to the neign of Edward III. various governors were appointed. In, the year 1846 Edward granted it to his son John of Gaunt, as a place "where he might be lodged and accommodated in a manner suitable to his dignity;" and whilst in his possession it was the occasional residence of John king of France, then a prisoner to Edward.

Henry duke of Lancaster, son of John of Caustinaster ha had assumed the reins of empire, settled the eastle and town on Joan de Navawe his queen, for her life; who, on a charge of conspiring the death of Henry V. by soncesy, forficited this among the rest of her estates. Henry VI. kept his Easter here in the seventh year of his reign, and his queen, Mangaret of Anjou, afterwards possessed the lordship.

In the neign of Henry VII. who, as heir to the house of Lancaster, became owner of the castle, it was ordnized by parliament, that weights and measures should be kept at Hertford as standards for the whole county; and his son, Henry VIII. caused a survey of the castle to be taken, with the intent, it is believed, of residing there.

Elizabeth, in the twenty-fifth year of her reign, on account of the plague which was then raging in the metropolis, kept her court at this castle; as she likewise did, from the same cause, in the thirty-fourth and thirty;



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EERTFORD,

lifth: indeed, she occasionally resided here during her whole reign, and hence grose the tale of her imprisonment within it.

In the reign of James I. all the honeurs, lands, and revenues of the crown at Hertford were settled on prince Charles, who, after he ascended the throne, granted the manor and eastle to William earl of Salisbury, whose descendant, the present marquis of Salisbury, is now owner of the manor. In the same reign the eastle was given to sir William Cowper bart, a most scalous supporter of the royal cause. By his son, Spencer Cowper, esq. it was afterwards sold to Edward Cox of Cheshunt, who again resold it to the Cowpers. This edifice has lately been hired by the East India Company, who have converted it into a college for the education of youth intended to fill the various offices in the civil departments in India.

Very few parts of the original building now remain, and those few are confined to the outer walls, with one round and some angular towers of rabble or stone. The presenterection consists chiefly of brick-work, and appears to be of a date as recent as the time of James I. excepting the high tower, in which is a room said to have been the prison of queen Elizabeth. The apartments of the castle are small but convenient, and adapted to the purposes of the college, for which they have been recently fitted up. Beneath are extensive vauits, and a subterraneous passage extending a considerable distance towards the east; for what purpose intended is now entirely unknown.

HERTFORD.

The area which the ancient walls enclose has been converted into gardens; and the river Lea flowing immediately beneath the north side of the building, gives additional beauty to the grounds. From the leads of the high tower before mentioned are extensive and beautiful views of the surrounding country.

The town of Hertford was first incorporated by William the Conqueror, since whose time numerous privileges and immunities have been granted by various sovereigns. Its civil government was first vested in a chief bailiff, an under bailiff, and other officers; but this form was altered at various times, and afterwards abrogated by James I. and the jurisdiction committed to a mayor and common council. By letters patent dated 1680, granted by Charles II. the corporation became vested in a mayor, recorder, ten aldermen, a chamberlain, sixteen assistants, and other officers; and under this charter the borough is now governed.

'Members to parliament were returned from Hettford as early as the reign of Edward I. which privilege was continued to the fifteenth year of Edward III. from which period no return was made until the the twenty-first of James I. when the right of representation was restored to the corporation; and at present the number of voters is near 800.

There were formerly at Hertford five churches, four parochial and one belonging to the priory; but of these only two are now remaining—All Saints and St. Andrew's. -

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HERTFORD.

All Saints, the principal church, consists of a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, with a low tower and spire.

The priory, of which there are not the least remains, was founded for monks of the Benedictine order, by Ralph de Limesey, in the reign of William the Conqueror, and made subordinate to the abbey of St. Alban's. There was formerly another religious house in this town for friars, subordinate to Mottenden, in Kent, of which likewise there exists not the least vestige.

At the entrance into the town from the London road is situated the school for children from Christ's Hospital, in London. The buildings form three sides of a quadrangle, and contain accommodations for upwards of 500 children. In this town is also a grammar-school, founded and endowed by Richard Hale, esq. of King's Walden, in the reign of James I. and seven scholarships are established at Peter House, Cambridge, for boys educated on this foundation. The sessions and market-house, with the town-hall, were rebuilt about thirty-four years ago, and are handsome brick edifices.

The situation from which the accompanying View of Hertford is taken is thus noticed in Scott's descriptive poem of "Amwell:"

----the hardy Dane,

----beneath you ridge
Of piny rocks his conquering navy moor'd,

MERTPORD.

With idle sails furl'd on the yard, and cars Recumbent on the flood, and streamers gay Triumphant fluttering on the passing winds.

-till Alfred came;

Till Alfred, father of his people, came, Lea's rapid tide into new channels turn'd, And left a-ground the Danian fleet, and forc'd The foe to speedy flight. THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIERARY

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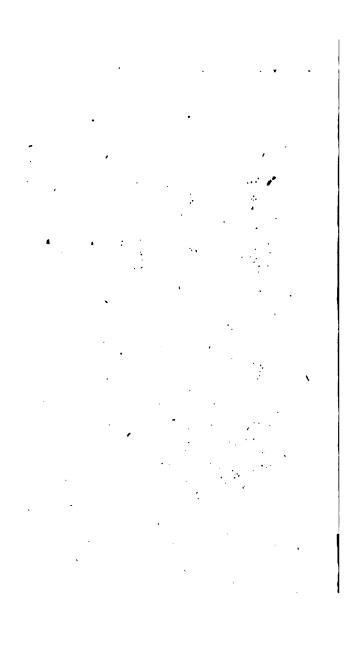


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ST. ALBAN'S,

HERTFORDSHIRE.

ST. ALBAN's is a considerable borough town, distant twenty-one miles from the metropolis. It was first incorporated by a charter of Edward VI. but the forms of the original grant have been at different periods in many respects altered. The government is now vested in a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four assistant burgesses, a high steward, recorder, town-clerk, coroner, &c. The first returns to parliament were made in the thirty-fifth of Edward I. The representation was afterwards interrupted till the reign of Edward VI.; since which the returns have been regular. Considerable improvements have been made at St. Alban's within the last twenty years; among which is a new road through the south-east part of the town. by which some abrupt and dangerous turnings have been avoided; and by an act of parliament passed in 1804, many of the streets have been paved and lighted. A great influx of business is occasioned by the almost continual passage of travellers through the town; and employment is afforded to the poorer inhabitants by the establishment of two breweries, a cotton manufactory, and a silk mill: the last is on an improved construction, and promises to be very successful. Here are a town-hall, several freeschools, a market-house, and a market-cross. The cross is supposed to stand upon the exact spot where Edward I.

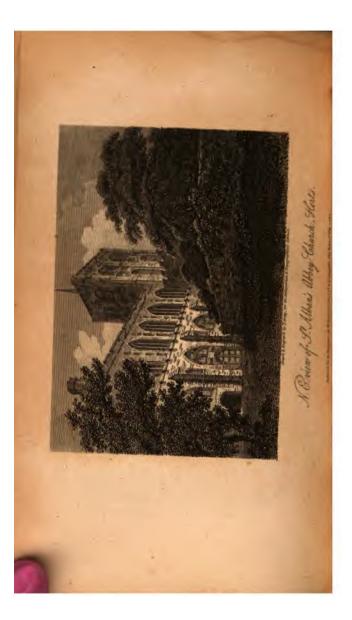
had built one of those rich and elegant crosses in memory of his beloved spouse Eleanor. St. Alban's is particularly remarkable for its venerable abbey-church; an account of which, with several views, will be given in a subsequent number.

The country in its vicinity presents a delightful scene, being richly wooded and enlivened by a great number of handsome residences, besides many seats of the nobility and gentry, among which is Holywell House, the residence of the dowager countess Spencer.

Verulam, from which St. Alban's derives its origin, was, according to Roman historians, of greater antiquity than even London itself. Under the Roman dominion it acquired the dignity of a free city. This honour was conferred on account of the assistance it afforded to the Roman arms: which attachment drew upon it the resentment of queen Boadicea, who, with a large army of Britons, sacked the city and slaughtered most of the inhabitants.

A few fragments of the ancient walls are still to be seen. A comprehensive view of its primitive splendour may be found in Spenser's Ruins of Time:

High towers, fair temples, goodly theatres, Strong walls, rich porches, princely palaces, Large streets, brave houses, sacred sepulchres, Sure gates, sweet gardens, stately galleries, Wrought with fair pillars and fine imageries; All those (O pity!) now are turn'd to dust, And overgrown with black oblivion's rust. THE NEW YORK

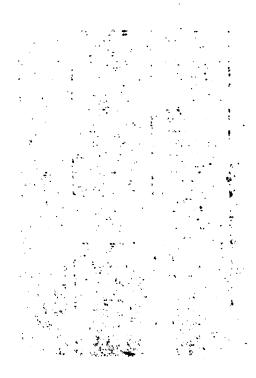


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ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY CHURCH,

HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE famous Abbey to which this Church was annexed owed its rise to the proto-martyr of England, St. Albanus, who, for the profession of Christianity, was beheaded under the emperor Dioclesian in the year 303: shortly after the cessation of this persecution a church was erected by the Christians in honour of the martyr upon the spot where St. Albanus suffered, and precisely where the present Abbey Church stands. The monastery was founded by Offa, king of the Mercians, with a view to regain peace of mind, after the commission of the most flagrant outrages; he was admonished by a vision to dedicate this Abbey to St. Albanus, and to raise and enshrine the relics of the saint; but the devastations of the Saxons rendered it impossible to discover the place of his interment; however, this difficulty was removed by the intervention of a miracle; for, on searching at Verulam for the remains, a light like a large torch stood exactly over the place where they were deposited; and on opening the ground the body was discovered in a wooden coffin, together with some relics, exactly as they had been placed 344 years before. It was then conveyed to the Church above mentioned, richly

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY CHURCH.

enshrined, and a circle of gold placed round the skull of the martyr by Offa himself. This king was so intent upon completing his foundation that be continued at St. Alban's to overlook the work till the eve of bis death: he endowed the monastery with the most ample privileges and numerous manors for the maintenauce of 100 Benedictine monks. Ealdred, the eighth abbot of St. Alban's. was the first that projected rebuilding the Abbey Church. and accordingly he began to search among the ruins of Verulam for materials to effect his purpose. His early death prevented the execution of this devien. His ancecemor added to his collection of materials, but the building was not commenced till after the Conquest. the search among the ruins of the ancient city numerous paran pelies were discovered; half ruined temples, attars. and statues of heathen gods, and culinary yessels of various forms; all these were stamped to dust by order of the abbot in his zeal against paganism. Frederick, who was abbot of St. Alban's in the time of William I. gave that monarch so much trouble and uneasiness that he deposed bim, and placed in his room Paul, a Norman. He first applied himself to rebuilding the Church, which was not finished till after the expiration of sixteen years. During the abbacy of Paul, the monastery received many valuable gifts; the abbot was himself a great benefactor. In the year 1129 a very sumptuous shrine was prepared for St. Alban by the then abbot, Geoffery de Gorham ; he also made additions to the Abbey buildings.

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ST. ALBAN'S ABBBY CHURCH.

In 1195 abbot Warren bequeathed 100 marks to his successor for rebuilding the West front of the Abbey Church; this sum was applied to demolish the ancient front, and much more was exhausted before the foundations of the new front were raised above the level of the ground: by this proceeding the monastery was much embarrassed, and finding the effort far beyond their means, the work was for some time abandoned; being resumed, its progress was very slow, and a considerable time clapsed before it was completed.

In December 1539 the revenues were surrendered by the abbot Richard de Stevenache, who for his compliance received a pension of £266:13:4 yearly; the prior and menks were likewise pensioned. The Abbey buildings, were granted to sir Richard Lee, who immediately began to demolish the whole; the Church was not included in the grant to sir Richard, but continued with the crown till the time of Edward VI, who sold it to the inhabitants of St. Alban's for £400.

This Church presents one of the finest specimens of architectural grandeur; its form is a long cross, with a majestic tower over the intersection of the nave and transcept; it stands upon a rising ground, which gives it much dignity and an ample command of the adjacent country, which is finely cultivated. The building is composed of various materials, among which the Roman tile is most conspicuous. Its entire length is 539 feet, the breadth of the transcept is 174. The situation of most

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY CHURCH.

of the monastic buildings was on the south and south-west sides of the Church, but only the gate-bouse now remains: it appears at the extremity of the Print, the south view of the Church. Its erection is supposed have been about the time of Richard II.: it is a heavy building, forms the principal entrance to the Abbey, and is now used as a prison. Some remains of the cloisters are still visible along the southern walls of the Church on the west side of the transcept, but they are nearly covered with rubbish and earth. The great window in the south end of the transcept was constructed in 1703, the ancient one being blown in during the great storm. The centre parts of the building are evidently the most ancient; the tower is supported by four large semi-circular arches, and from the time of the Normans to about the reign of Edward IV. there appears to be specimens of the style of building which prevailed in the intermediate ages.

A very interesting history of the Abbey and Church of St. Alban may be found in Mr. Brayley's "Beauties of England and Wales," from which the substance of the present sketch is extracted.

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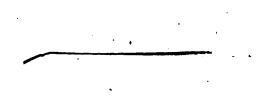
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STATUE OF HENRY THE EIGHTH.

AT GORHAMBURY, HERTS.

GORHAMBURY, the seat of lord viscount Grimstone, celebrated from having been the residence of the great lord Bacon, is situated within a short distance of St. Alban's. It derives its name from —— de Gorham, a relative to Geoffry and Robert de Gorham, abbots of St. Alban's, who conferred on him a grant of these lands, about the middle of the twelfth century. This estate continued to be the property of his descendants, till near the end of the fourteenth century, when it was re-annexed to the abbey, by the abbot De la Mare, who purchased it for 800 marks. The manor remained in the possession of the abbey till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted it to Ralph Rowlat, whose eldest daughter married John Maynard, esq. by which union the estate became the property of that gentleman. It was afterwards purchased by Nicholas Bacon, esq. who was made lord keeper of the privy seal by queen Elizabeth.

Sir Nicholas erected the mansion, which is now a ruin westward of the present edifice. It was originally of a quadrangular form, but the only parts remaining which are worthy of notice are a portion of the great hall, a lofty octangular tower, and the porch of entrance.

STATUE OF HENRY THE EIGHTH.

The porch is a square projection of richly-ornamented stone, rising to the height of the original building. Beneath a pediment are the royal arms of Elizabeth, and still lower on each side of a square window, are several rudely-carved statues of Roman soldiers. The interior of the porch was ornamented by sir Nicholas with all 'the splendid emblasonments peculiar to the age. Within the great hall were painted several elegant devices, and here the lord keeper often entertained his royal and munificent mistress Elizabeth. The tower is of brick, and commands from its summit a variety of beautiful prospects, but, from its now ruinous state, it is seldom if ever ascended. About thirty yards from the tower is a niche in a broken wall, where stands the Statue of Henry VIII. This Statue is in gilt armour, and conveys some resemblance of the robust Henry, though now mutilated, and in a state of decay. It was introduced here by the lord Bacon, at the time the wall was built.

This superb mansion of the great Bacon, from which the puissant Elizabeth often issued her royal mandates, has been entirely neglected since the present residence of the lords Grimstone was erected, between the years 1778 and 1765.

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SCOTT'S GROTTO,

AMWELL, HERTS.

This Grotto, which is esteemed one of the greatest curiosities in the county, was designed and constructed about the year 1766, by the late John Scott, a poet of comsiderable eminence. Much of the manual labour in this operation, he observes in a letter to a friend, fell to his own share; for he was under the necessity of enconraging his rustic assistants by marching before them with a pickaxe, like a pioneer, to dig the excavation which was made under the side of a hill in his garden. The Grotto consists of several apartments, and is composed of many rare and valuable shells, fomils, spars, &c. : when illuminated, as it may be at a few minutes notice, by means of a chandeller, it present a steers of incunceivable branty. Dr. Johnson, on bear 10.11 by his friend South the section in the section of the pro-. the grounds but a poet IN MARKET ter." described to published - II -

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SCOTT'S GROTTO,

AMWELL, HERTS.

THIS Grotto, which is esteemed one of the greatest curiosities in the county, was designed and constructed about the year 1766, by the late John Scott, a poet of considerable eminence. Much of the manual labour in this operation, he observes in a letter to a friend, fell to his own share; for he was under the necessity of encouraging his rustic assistants by marching before them with a pickaxe, like a pioneer, to dig the excavation which was made under the side of a hill in his garden. The Grotto consists of several apartments, and is composed of many rare and valuable shells, fossils, spars, &c.: when illuminated, as it may be at a few minutes notice, by means of a chapdelier, it presents a scene of inconceivable beauty. Dr. Johnson, on being led to it by his friend Scott, was so struck with its appearance, that he pronounced it Fairy Hall, and said, alluding to the grounds through which he had passed, that " none but a poet could have made such a garden." The Grotto is well described by Scott, in an epistle called " The Garden," published with his other Poems:

Where 'midst thick oaks, the subterraneous way To the arch'd grot admits a feeble ray; Where glassy pebbles pave the varied floors, And rough flint walls are deck'd with shells and ores.

SCOTT'S GROTTO.

A book was formerly kept here for the signatures of visitors; this is now in the possession of the proprietor of the estate, John Hooper, esq. who married the poet's only daughter. Among the names are those of many noble personages, foreigners as well as natives; this book contains, besides the signatures, many couplets and verses extempore. The following lines by Mr. Park, an intimate friend of Scott's, were written some time after his death, and are worthy of particular notice.

As to some honour'd saint's illustrious fane,
A votary's steps approach with reverend awe;
Pause with delight around the lev'd domain,
And still, still pause unwilling to withdraw:
So by poetic homage fondly led,
Though Amwell'a hallow'd how'zs I secret rove,
Retrace each path where Theron us'd to tread,
And pierce afresh each inspirative grove;
With new admissment mank the mystic spot,
Where art and nature strive with taste to blend;
Where Theron form'd his subtemaneous grot,
Theron, the Mass' and the Poet's friend;
While o'er each widow'd haunt as roams my eye,
I breathe the incense of a secred sigh.

The grotto is still kept in excellent order by Me. Hooper; and though it does not accord with his system of retirement to admit of too frequent visits, yet he is not averse to gratifying occasionally the curiowky of persons of taste and discernment. THE NEW YORK

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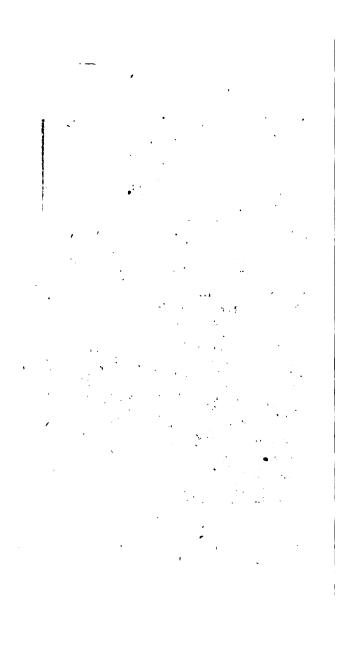


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ELSTOW,

BEDFORDSHIRE.

Elstow is about a mile distant from Bedford, and was formerly possessed of an abbey of Benedictine nuns, founded by Judith, niece to William the Conqueror, and wife to Waltheof, earl of Huntingdon. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin, and Helena, the wife of Constantine the Great; its revenues at the dissolution were valued at £284.

The church is a handsome structure, with a detached tower at the north-west. The north door is beautifully ornamented in the zigzag manner. Within the church are several shields of stone, charged with the cross, and other emblems of the Passion; these were probably the abbey arms.

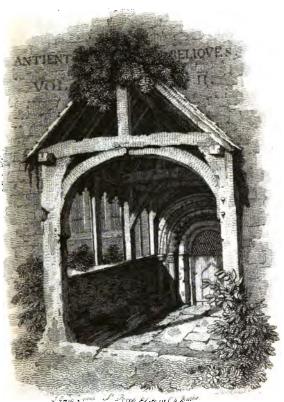
Elstow is not more remarkable for any thing than for being the birth-place of one of the most celebrated characters that this country ever produced. In the year 1628 was born here John Bunyan, the author of the Pilgrim's Progress: after receiving a common education, he was employed as a hrazier, and worked at Bedford. He was afterwards a soldier in the parliament army; and in 1656 he commenced preaching, and became very popular in that avocation. The persecuting spirit of the times soon

ELSTOW.

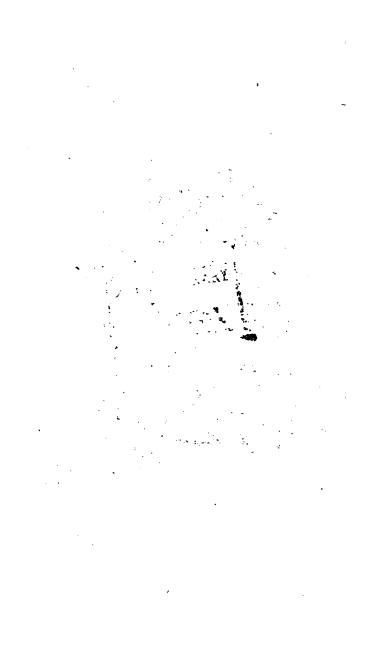
eaused him to be arrested, and he remained twelve years in Bedford gaol, where he composed his most ingenious allegory. After a life of much suffering and eminent usefulness, in 1688 (as a pious writer observes), " He crossed the mystical Jordan, following his Christian Pilgrim to the celestial city."



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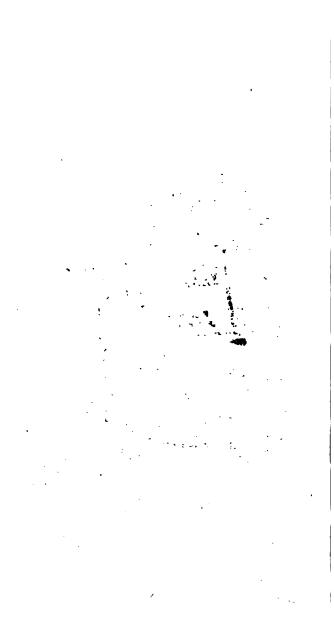
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BUSHMEAD PRIORY,

BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE Priory of Bismede, or Bushmead, in the parish of Eaton Socon, in the county of Bedford, was founded in the reign of Henry II. by Hugh the son of Oliver Beauchamp. It was inhabited by Austin canons, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its revenues, at the dissolution of monasteries, were estimated at £71:13:91, clear yearly value. The site was granted, in 1537, to sir William Gascoigne, comptroller of the household to cardinal Wolsey. Sir John Gascoigne, in 1545, conveyed it to Anthony Cocket, from whom, in 1552, it passed to William Gery, esq. of Over, in the county of Cambridge, and continued to be the residence of his descendants in the male line, till the death of the late William Gery, esq. in 1802. It is now the property and seat of his son-in-law, the reverend Hugh Wade Gery, who has a cartulary of the Priory, very fairly written on vellum, and Buck's drawing of the conventual buildings, taken in 1730; about five years'after which the front building was taken down, and a modern house erected in its place.

BUSHMEAD PRIORY.

The edifice on the left-hand side, which still remains, was the refectory, and is now converted into a stable and offices.

Yet time has seen, that lifts the low,
And level lays the lofty brow—
Has seen this broken pile complete,
Big with the vanity of state;
But transient is the smile of Fate!
A little rule, a little sway,
A sunbeam in a winter's day,
Is all the proud and mighty have
Between the cradle and the grave.

Dyer.

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ASTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS



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BLETSOE,

BEDFORDSHIRE.

BLETSOE is a small village, about six miles north-west from Bedford, on the road to Higham Ferrers. The ancient manor-house is said to have been the birth-place of Margaret countess of Richmond and Derby, and the place where her mother, the duchess of Somerset, resided in great state. This is confirmed by an epitaph which existed in the village church, on the tomb of Ralph Lannoy, describing him as cofferer and keeper of the wardrobe to the most noble Margaret duchess of Somerset. Some mutilated walls of the ancient building are yet standing upon the borders of the moat that surrounds the site, and the vicinity appears, by ravines and raised works, to have been the scene of military operations. The present building is now occupied by a farmer: it was erected probably about the time of queen Elizabeth. and forms one side of a quadrangle, the greater part having been taken down long since. The interior contains many noble rooms closely panneled, having chimney places finely carved, which are still in excellent preservation. The manor of Bletsoe, at the time of the survey, was in the possession of Hugh de Beauchamp; it came afterwards to the family of Patshull. In IS27,

BLETSOE.

John de Patshull obtained the king's licence for embattling his manor at Bletsoe; and, in 1344, he was summoned to parliament as a baron. Sir Roger de Beauchamp became possessed of this estate by marriage, and was summoned to parliament in 1373, as baron Beauchamp of Bletsoe. Margaret, his grand-daughter, married sir Oliver St. John, a descendant of the ancient family of St. John, of Basing; her second husband was John Beaufort, duke of Somerset, by whom she had one daughter, Margaret, the wife of Edmund Tudor, earl of Richmond, and mother of Henry VII.

The estate is now the property of Henry Beau-champ, lord St. John.

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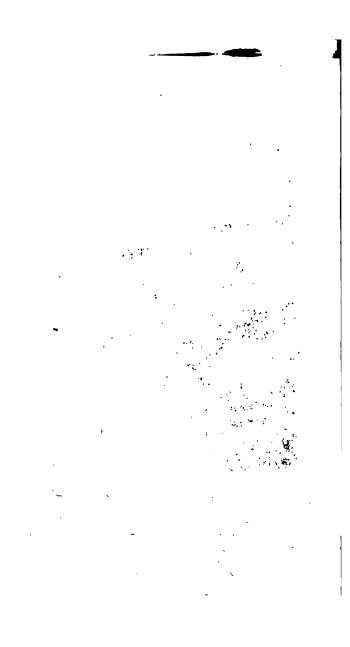


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DUNSTAPLE PRIORY.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE site on which Dunstaple, or Dunstable, now stands, was, in the time of Henry I. a wild and dangerous waste, much infested by thieves and outlaws. It being the most frequented way to the north, Henry, for the protection of travellers, ordered the woods, which afforded shelter for the banditti, to be cleared away, and built here a royal palace, called Kingsbury; and as an inducement to his subjects to settle near him, he granted them lands at a low rent, gave them the privilege of a market, and many other grants; by these means he shortly established a considerable town, and in the year 1131 founded a priory near his palace, which was dedicated to St. Peter, and consisted of black canons. This monastery was endowed by the king, with the whole manor of Dunstaple, and all the lands belonging to the town; and, among other privileges, the monks and their servants were exempted from all customs and secular exactions, and worldly service throughout the realm. Henry however reserved to himself his royal mansion and garden as a place of occasional residence; he kept his Christmas here in the year 1123, and received with great pomp and splendour an embassy from the earl of Anjou.

DUNSTAPLE PRIORY.

The grants of this monarch to the Priory were confirmed by his successors, and in 1204 king John gave his palace of Kingsbury and gardens to the prior and convent, on condition that he and his suit should be accommodated with lodgings in the monastery at every future visit to This king lay here on his journey to the north in 1215, and the place was afterwards frequently honoured with the presence of royalty. In 1290 the corpse of queen Eleanor was deposited in the Priory for one night: on this occasion a cross was erected in the midst of the market-place; the ground was marked out with great solemnity by the chancellor and attendant nobility, assisted by the prior, who sprinkled the destined spot with holy water. This cross is supposed to have been destroyed by the soldiers of the earl of Essex, who were quartered here in the year 1643.

The prior of Dunstaple was invested with considerable privileges, having the power of life and death, with the right of sitting with the king's judges itinerant, when they came here on their circuits. The last prior was Gervose Markham, who was an active instrument in the divorce of Henry VIII. from his queen, Catharine of Arragon: much of the business relative to this important affair was transacted here; and, finally, the sentence of divorce was pronounced here in the chapel of Our Lady, by archbishop Cranmer. Markham, with Thomas Claybroke and many other of the monks of this Priory, subscribed to the act of supremacy in 1534. At the dissolution

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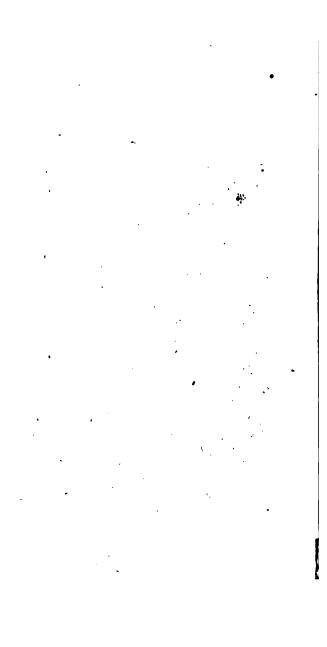
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DUBSPAPLE PRICES.

to prior received an annual pension of £60 during the smainder of his life; he died in the year 1553, and was made in the church. At the suppression the revenues of his Priory were rated, according to Speed, at the yearly. After of £402:14:7. The site was given in 1654 to Dr. boonard Chamberlayne. The detate is now the property of colonel Maddison.

Of this religious establishment scarcely any thing new semains, excepting the present parish church, which is merely the nave of the conventual church. This exhibits a variety of architecture. The western froat, which is principally in the early Gothic style, is singularly beautiful and picturesque. The grand entrance is under a semi-elliptical arch, containing a number of mouldings, ornamented with fanciful sculpture, human figures, for linge, and animals. A little to the north of this entranceis a lesser door, which is likewise highly enriched with various devices. Between the doors is a row of chrenlar arches intersecting each other; these arches are composed of alternately greater and lesser joints, and are a remarkable feature among the decorations of this front of the church. Above the lesser door are a number of pointed arches, which formerly contained statues, as appears by the nedestale which still: remain: over these are six other arches, besides three larger ones immediately over the great door. This range formed the front of a gallery called the rood-loft, from which, on particular days, the holy cross was exhibited, and many monkish miracles

DUNSTAPLE PRIORY.

performed. This church is supposed to have been first built in form of a cross with a tower in the centre: two large clusters of columns which supported it may be seen at what is now the eastern end.

At a short distance from the church, to the southwest, are the remains of the Priory gate, consisting of two arches, now much decayed; these led to the offices and lodgings belonging to the Priory.

The interior of the church is principally of Norman architecture; the columns are clustered and massive, supporting arches of a semicircular form, with a zigzag moulding: in the south aisle, at the east end, the original groined roof of stone is still remaining. Over the altar is a picture of the Lord's Supper, painted by sir James Thornhill; it was presented to the parish in the year 1720. Within the church are several monuments of the families of Aynescombe, Dickenson, Marsh, and Chew, who were great benefactors to the town.

The exorbitant privilege of the priors of Dunstaple, and their intemperate exactions, gave rise to frequent disturbances in the town: in the year 1229 the inhabitants were so incensed against the clergy that they withdrew their tithes and offerings, pounded the prior's horses, and scattered his coru; and notwithstanding the principal effenders were excommunicated at the prior's request, they still remained inflexible, and declared they would go to the devil rather than be taxed: in their enthusiasm to be delivered from the tyranny of the church they treated for

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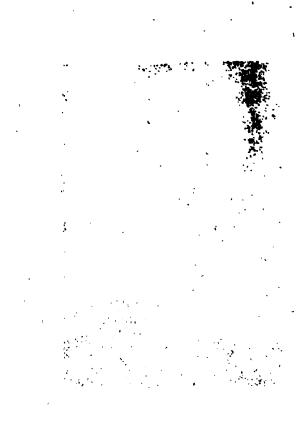
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DUNSTAPLE PRIORY.

forty acres of land to build booths upon, intending to leave the town.

By letters patent dated sixth of Edward VI. the rectory and advowson of Dunstaple was granted to the dean and canons of Windsor; this grant was afterwards resumed, as it is now in the gift of the crown. At the time of the dissolution it was the intention of Henry to found one of his cathedrals here; and, according to report, he had nominated Dr. Day to be the first bishop; but this idea being abandoned, the fabric was demolished in the general devastation of monasteries, reserving only what was sufficient for the purposes of a parish church. Many curious relics have been discovered in digging near the site of the eastern extremity of the monastery, particularly in 1745, when a stone coffin was found about two feet from the surface, containing a skeleton entire excepting the ribs.

The town is situated near the entrance of the Chiltern Hills, and consists of four streets crossing each other at right angles, nearly in the direction of the cardinal points. Many of the houses have the appearance of antiquity, though mostly built with brick. The number of inhabitants is computed at about 1000; their chief support is derived from the manufactory of straw hats, baskets, &c. At the southern entrance of the town is a manufactory of whiting, which likewise gives employment to many families. Several charitable institutions exist here; among them is a charity-school for forty boys

DUBSTAPLE PRICEY.

and aftern girls, who are clothed, educated, and apprenticed. The parish of Dunstaple contains about 340 acres, principally in pasture. The farms are small, only one of them amounting to 100 acres. The coil is chalky and without springs; no water can be procured but at the depth of 116 feet; this inconvenience is in some degree tolerated by four large pends, in which the rain from the hitle is collected, and the chalky bottoms preventing its being absorbed by the earth—the supply cannot easily be anhausted.

Dunstaple is now governed by four constables, and retains but few of the privileges which were enjoyed under the charter of Henry I. According to the monkish legends it derives its name from Dun or Dunning, a famous robber, who had a hiding-place here, thence it was called Dunning's Stable; but it most probably takes its name from duna or dunum, a hill; and staple, a place of commerce or meschanding.

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QUEEN'S CROSS,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Or the occasion of this memorial being erected, we have given an account in our description of Wattham Cross.

It stands upon a rising ground, on the east side of the London road, in the parish of Hardingstone, and little more than half a mile south from Northampton.

The ascent to it is by eight steps, each about one foot broad, and nine inches high. It is divided into three stories, or towers; the first, of an octagonal form, each side being four feet wide, and fourteen in height. On the south and east sides are the arms of the county of Ponthieu, in Picardy; the queen's mother having been countess of Ponthieu; and in another escutcheon, those of the kingdom of Castile and Leon; her father being Ferdinand III. king of Castile and Leon. On the north side, in two separate shields, are the arms of Castile and Leon, and of England: on each of these, and on the west side, just below the arms, in alto relievo, is an open book, on a kind of desk.

The second story, of a like shape with the former, is twelve feet in height. In every other side, within a niche, is a female figure; crowned, about six feet high (in good condition), with a canopy over its head, supported by two Gothic pillans, crowned with pinnacles.

QUEEN'S CROSS.

The upper tower is eight feet high, and has only four sides, facing due east, west, north, and south. On each of these sides is a sun-dial, which were put up in 1712. The top is mounted with a cross three feet in height, which was added in 1713, when the road was repaired, by order of the bench of justices. On the western side of the lower story, and fronting the road, are the toyal arms of Great Britain, with queen Anne's motto, Semper eadem. Underneath the arms is a square tablet of white marble, thus inscribed:

In perpetuam Conjugalis Amoris Memoriam Hoc Eleanoræ Reginæ Monumentum, Vetustate pene collapsum, restaurari voluit, Honorabilæ Justiciariorum Coetus Comitatis Northamptoniæ

MDCCXIII.

Anno illo felicissimo
In quo ANNA
Grandæ Britanniæ suæ Decus,
Potentissima Oppressorum Vindex,
Pacis Bellique Arbitra,
Post Germaniam liberatam,
Belgiam Præsidiis munitam,
Gallos plus vice decima profligatos
Suis Sociorumque Armis,
Vincendi quodum statuit;
Et Europæ in Libertatem vindicatæ
PACEM restituit.

On the south side of the bottom story is a white marble escutcheon, with this inscription:

Rursus emendat et restaurat
Anno GEORGH III. regis 2do.
DOMINI 1762.
N. Baylis.

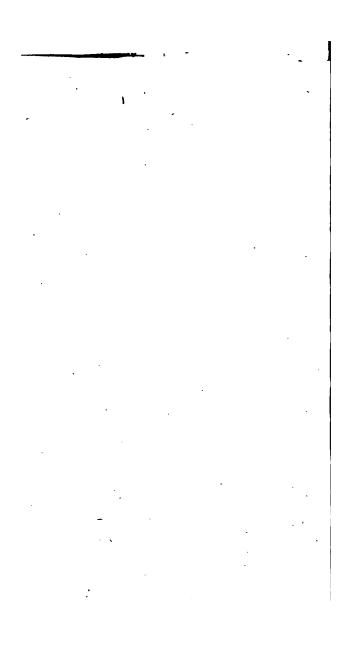
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ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

NORTHAMPTON.

THIS remarkable structure, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is situated near the extremity of the town on the west side, and at a short distance from the site of the ancient castle of Northampton. At what time the Church was built no certain account can be obtained: it is probable, however, that it was erected by one of the Norman lords who held possession of the castle; this opinion is strengthened by the style of its architecture, and its proximity to that fortress.

The rectory of St. Peter was given to St. Andrew's Priory, in the town of Northampton, by Simon de St. Luz, and confirmed by Hugh Wells, bishop of Lincoln, who was translated to that see in the year 1209. The right of patronage reverted to the crown in the reign of Henry III. when the rectory was valued at thirty marks, besides ten marks to the prior of St. Andrew's: in 1535, the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII. it was valued at £34:13:4, out of which was deducted 10s. 8d. for procurations and synodals: it continued a considerable time with the crown, and was afterwards given to the masters, brethren, and sisters of St. Catharine's Hospital, London. It is recorded by Brydges, in his History of Northamptonshire,

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

that "It was the privilege of this Church, that a person accused of any crime, intending to clear himself by canonical purgation, should do it here, and in no other place in the town, having first performed his vigil and prayers in the said Church the evening before."

The exterior of this Church, as well as the interior, has undergone various alterations at different times, which is apparent in many parts by the discordancy of its architecture; not withstanding which there are few more perfect specimens of the kind to be found. The buttresses on the western corner of the tower are composed of three semi-columns conjoined, diminishing in width at each story as they ascend, and finishing under the upper moulding of the tower in a single half column, with a pointed cap. Over the west door, which is now merely an entrance to the tower, is a small window of the Gothic kind, above which is an arch composed of three ornamented mouldings; over this are a number of arches supported by semi-columns with capitals; these arches are continued. round the tower, and have on the north (side the addition of a lower tier; the upper ranges have two fillets above them, supported by a number of fanciful heads, and the base of their columns stands upon a moulding, the under part of which is indented in the zigzag manner, and supported by heads like the fillets above: under the lower range of arches on the north side are two mouldings ornamented with diamond work. The windows of the belfry are long and handsomely formed, with a cross mullion in the middle; THE NEW YORK
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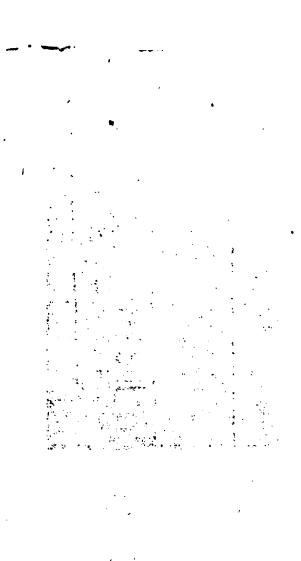


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ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

the mouldings of the tower below them. as well as those above, are very fresh, and have a considerable projection: the battlements are likewise sharp and perfect, The body of the Church has a train of circular arches on each side, some of which are open and glazed, and above them is a string of fifty-four grotesque heads. The interior of the Church consists of a body and two aisles: the breadth of the body, including the aisles, is thirty-five feet and a half, its length seventy-eight feet; the length of the tower is fourteen feet three inches, breadth twelve feet eight inches. On each side of the body are seven columns. which divide it from the aisles; three of them are composed of semi-columns, the others have but one shaft: the last column on each side, at the western extremity of the church, has a band of mouldings in the middle; the capital of each column is ornamented diversely with foliage and other decorations; above are eight arches of a semi-circular form, adorned with zig-zag indentures. end of the church is separated from the tower by a large arch, more highly enriched than the side arches, and supported by six elegant pillars, three of which are plain, the others variously embossed. The roof, which was formerly of beam-work, is now a complete flat of uninteresting plaster. There are no monuments worthy of particular notice. The churches of Kingsthorpe and Upton are annexed to it as chapels of ease.

A little without the west gate formerly stood the Castle upon a very considerable eminence, overlooking

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

the meads and the country about Dunston; on the western side runs that branch of the Nyne which comes from Naseby. It was built by Simon de St. Luz, the first of that name who was earl of Northampton. It bad a large keep, and a royal free chapel dedicated to St. George. Astipendiary chaplain was presented to this chapel by the crown, with the yearly salary of 1s. Some time previous to the year 1675 the remains of the castle were used as the county goal; nothing of it is now standing excepting a few fragments of the walls.

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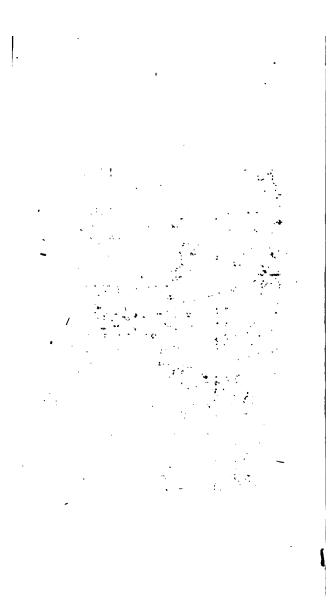
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ST. GILES'S CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ST. GILES'S CHURCH stands at the east end of the town of Northampton: it consists of a body, north and south aisles, and a chancel, with an aisle or transcept from north to south: the whole of the roof is leaded. In the middle is a handsome, square, embattled tower, lessening as it ascends; its corners are ornamented with a pinnacle and weathercock. Within the tower are six bells, on one of which is inscribed, in Gothic characters-" Sit Pater Flamen Protesque micans modulamen." At the west end of the Church is a large door with a round arch, filled with the zigzag ornament, and supported by small columns on each side. At the upper end of the cross aisle is the vestry, which was probably, in former times, a chantry chapel. Some years since the chancel was wainscoted at the expense of Dr. Grey, a physician. The length of the Church, including the chancel, is 116 feet, and the length of the transcept is sixty-four feet. The register bears date 1585.

This Church appears to have been given to the priory of St. Andrew, in Northampton, by Simon de St. Liz, the founder. It was confirmed to the convent

ST. GILES'S CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON.

by Richard archbishop of Canterbury and Hugh Wells bishop of London, in whose time the vicarage was ordained. No mention is made of this vicarage in the old taxations, but in the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII. it was valued at £8, out of which was deducted 12d. for synodals and procurations. Upon the dissolution of the measurement, the right of presentation continued for some time in the crown, but about the year 1640 it was in the hands of sir John Lambe, and came afterwards, by purchase, to Peter Whalley, esq. from whom it descended to the present patron, Nathaniel Whalley.

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S.W. view of S! Sepulchre's Church , Northampi"

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ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE Church of the Holy Sepulchre is situated near the northern extremity of Northampton, and is worthy of particular notice, being one of the ancient round churches, of which there are but four remaining in this country. To whom it owes its origin is now unknown: tradition, without any foundation, ascribes it to the Jews; and the Knights Templars, with more show of authority, have been honoured as its founders; but as it is well authenticated, that before the Templars had any possessions in this country it belonged to the priory of St. Andrew's, in Northampton, and as that priory was founded by Simon St. Liz, first earl of Northampton of that name, the most probable opinion is, that the Church of St. Sepulchre owes its origin to him, who had been a crusader, and who most likely deemed it the chief honour of his life, to have contributed to rescue the church of the resurrection at Jerusalem from the infidels. The Church at Northampton being built nearly in the same form as that at Jerusalem, and certainly of the age when the first holy war was undertaken, was presented to the priory of St. Andrew's by Simon St. Liz, second earl of Northampton of that name, who died in 1127.

ST. SEPULCHER'S CHURCH.

This Church consists of a rotund, within which is an octagon, supported at each angle by massive pillars, four of which have square bases and capitals, the other four being round; from the pillars spring plain pointed arches, and in the aisle which surrounds the octagon is an ancient doorway, now walled up, having a circular arch within and a pointed one without; the roof is of wood. Attached to the eastern part of the Church is a chancel, having a north and south aisle: the chancel is entered from the Church by an ascent of three steps. At the western extremity of the Church is a massive embattled tower, from which rises an octangular spice. The length of the Church and chancel is ninety-seven feet six inches; the breadth of the chancel and aisles fifty-eight feet; the diameter of the rotund fifty-eight feet six inches; and the compass of the octagon 112 feet eight inches. On the north side of the Church is a small porch. In the twenty-sixth of Henry VIII, the rectory was valued at £6:12. After the dissolution the patrozage of this Church appears to have been in the crown: but in 1610 it belonged to sir John Lambe, who sold it to Peter Whalley, esq.

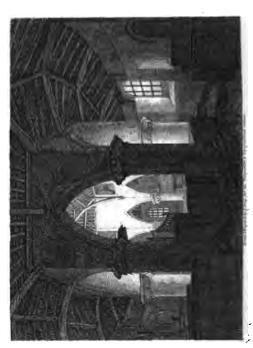
Upon a marble in the body of the Church is inserted a brass plate, bearing the portrait of a man between his two wives hand in band; beneath the woman on his right hand are two sons and one daughter, beneath the other are seven sons and two daughters; and by an accompanying inscription we are informed that his name



Interior of Mandebree Church . Sollamitton

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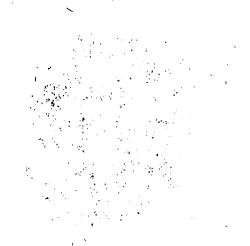
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ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH.

from the high road, in the wall of a house, is fixed a stone, on which is sculptured a crucifixion of Our Saviour rudely executed. According to tradition, which is often the vehicle of manifest absurdities, this was intended to commemorate the licentious cruelty of the Jews, who, in the time of Edward I. crucified a Christian boy at Northampton, in derision of Christianity.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH.

was George Coles: he gave for pious uses £11 yearly for ever, and died on the 1st of January 1640.

In 1677 Mr. Nicholas Rothwell, of London, mealman, by a verbal will gave £100 to the poor of this parish; with this money two small closes were purchased, the rent of which is applied to placing out the children of poor inhabitants apprentices.

Near the gate by which the churchyard is entered





L. Gorch, Wood ford Church, Northampton shire.

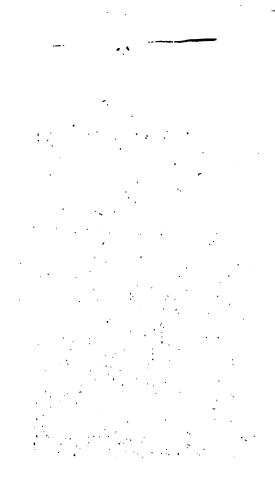
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SOUTH PORCH OF WOODFORD CHURCH,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

WOODFORD is remarkable as the supposed site of a Roman fort, one of the line which Ostorius established on the river Nen, for the purpose of checking the incursions of the northern inhabitants of our island. Considerable vestiges of a Roman station are yet evident; especially three tumili, about half a mile north-west of the town, near to which tiles, fragments of a tessalated pavement, an urn, decidedly Roman, with many other remains of that people, have formerly been found. In the possession of lord St. John is a gold medal, in high preservation, which was turned up by the plough in this neighbourhood, inscribed round the head. DN VALEN-TINIANUS PF AUG: on the reverse is a soldier, with a standard in his right hand, and holding in his left a victory, circumscribed RESTITUTOR REIPUBLICAE. Two brass medals were likewise found in Woodford field, one of them with CONSTANTINOPOLIS inscribed round the head; the other too much defaced to be described with precision.

On the banks of the river, near the church, is a steep and irregular terrace, apparently artificial, though too much broken up to satisfy the antiquary that it ever

SOUTH PORCH OF WOODFORD CHURCH.

had the rectangular form of the Roman fort. The church is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river: it consists of a body, north and south aisles, and a chancel; there is a tower and spire at the west end. The church, including the chancel, is 140 feet long; the breadth, with the aisles, forty-five feet: it contains several ancient monuments, and in the windows of the north aisle are paintings representing the apostles and other subjects. The most remarkable feature of the church is the South Porch, the entrance to which is through a lofty pointed arch, supported by clustered columns: within this is a circular arch, which contains a large trefoil-headed door, curiously carved in the Gothic style, and springing from a cluster of handsome columns.

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GREAT ADDINGTON CHURCH,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THIS Church is dedicated to All Saints, and consists of a body, north and south aisle, and chancel, leaded. On the north side of the chancel is a chauntry chapel. At the west end of the Church is an embattled tower, in which are four bells. The Church and chancel are seventy-one feet in length; the body and aisles, in breadth, thirty-eight feet four inches; the tower thirteen feet in length, and eleven feet in breadth. In the east window of the south aisle is the portrait of the Virgin Mary, with our Saviour in her arms, and beneath is an imperfect inscription. In 1254 this Church, deducting 16s. the annual portion of the abbot of Thorney, was valued at twelve marks. In 1535 it was rated at £12, out of which was deducted, in a pension to the abbot of Crovland, 10s. to the abbot of Thorney 6s. 8d. in procurations and synodals 10s. 7d.

In this Church of Addington Magna, was a chauntry, founded and endowed with lands to the yearly value of £6, by Henry Veer, for a priest, to sing, for ever, for himself and his ancestors; and by his last will be also directs his lands and tenements at Sywell to be

GREAT ADDINGTON CHURCH.

sold, and with the produce to purchase as much as his executors could for his chauntry.

The south porch of this Church is ancient; the arch is circular, and ornamented with the sigzag moulding; the columns were three on each side, but their capitals only remain, which bear some faint resemblance to the Corinthian.



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RAUNDS CHURCH,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

RAUNDS is pleasantly situated on a rocky declivity, about half a mile to the right of the road between Higham-Ferrers and Thrapston, bordered on the west by the river Nyne. The town is well watered, and within the parish are several springs, one of which possesses petrifying qualities. This lordship is famous for quarries of rag-stone, which, from the beauty of its grain and firmness of its texture, is usually called Raunds' marble. The Church is dedicated to St. Peter; it stands upon an eminence, and consists of a spacious body, north and south aisles, and a large chancel, the whole covered with lead. The upper or eastern ends of the aisles are parted off by a screen: on the partition of the south aisles are paintings in distemper, in eight different squares; the subjects illustrative of the history of Joseph and his Brethren, and appear to be of considerable antiquity. In the first compartment Joseph is represented as sleeping with the eleven sheaves, bowing to his sheaf, and the sun, moon, and stars, making obeisance to him. The second division contains Joseph's interview with the person who sends him to Dothan in search of his Brethren. In the third, Joseph is just taken from the pit, and committed to the Ishma-

RAUNDS' CHURCH.

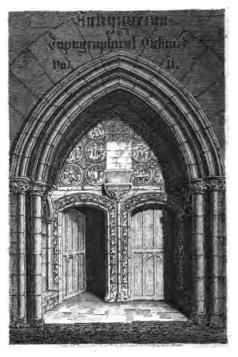
elites. In the fourth, Joseph is interpreting the dream of the chief butler and baker in prison. In the fifth, Joseph is brought before Pharaoh to interpret his dream. In the sixth, with servants under his direction, he is filling the store-houses in the years of plenty. The seventh represents the astonishment of his brother on finding the cup in Benjamin's sack. In the last Joseph discovers himself to his Brethren. Under each of these compartments were inscriptions; most of them are now obliterated. In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1791 are fac-similes of five of them, which are partly taken from the Latin Vulgate, published by Sixtus V. Beyond the south aisle is a chantry called St. Peter's Chapel, between which and the aisle was formerly a rood loft. The tower of the Church is surmounted by a lofty octangular spire, remarkable for its simplicity and excellent masonry; its height is supposed to be between sixty and seventy yards. The tower is on the north and south sides, divided into three tiers of tall lancet arches, supported by slender clustered pillars: its west front is in four divisions, enriched with trefoil headed arches, quaterfoils, and a singular projection in the form of a W, which occupies the third division from the ground. The lower part of the tower appears to have been built during the decline of the Norman style; a double trefoil arch in the interior of the tower bears a strong resemblance to the west door of St. Cross at Winchester. Nearly two thirds of the columns and bases, on which these arches rest, are concealed by a rude vaulted

RAUNDS' CHURCH.

floor, which has been thrown across that part of the tower, subsequently to its erection, for no obvious purpose, excepting the support of the Church clock. The height of the inner part of the arch from the present floor is six feet, and five feet six inches of the columns being walled up in the arched floor, it must have been originally a most elegant example of the decorative architecture of its period. In the tower are five bells; round the fourth, in Saxon characters, is inscribed, "Gulielmus Catlin armiger multi, vocati pauci elicti omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei."-The Church has a large south porch. with an eastern and western wind...; over it is a room. with a window to the south. In several of the windows are imperfect portraits, and remains of painted glass. Round the communion table is inscribed, in capitals, "The gift of Gilbert Negouse, who was buried the 2d of August 1630."

The Church and chancel are in length 100 feet ten inches; the breadth of the body and aisles sixty-three feet. The tower is twenty feet seven inches long, and seventeen feet two inches broad. The register begun in 1581. In the twenty-eighth year of Edward III. the patronage of this Church, by the gift of Henry, duke of Lancaster, was appropriated to the dean and chapter of the college of Newark in Leicester. After the dissolution of religious houses the impropriate rectory and patronage fell to the crown.

The cross in its present state, the upper part being



West door of Higham Foren Church Northampton hire.

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HIGHAM-FERRERS,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

HIGHAM-FERRERS stands on a rocky elevated ground. The lordship extends from east to west about three miles, and from north to south rather less than two. At the distance of about half a mile from the town, on the northeast side, flows the river Nyne, which receives a large tribute of water from the springs abounding in the neighbourhood.

The elevated situation of Higham-Ferrers affords a delightful prospect over the meadows, intersected by the river, beyond which is the beautiful village of Irthlingborough. The village church (of which our First Volume contains a Print) presents itself pre-eminently from among the trees, and a rising woodland gives a pleasing termination to the view. Higham-Ferrers, which was a borough by prescription, was first chartered by Philip and mary, again by James I. and twice by Charles II. The proration consists of a mayor, seven aldermen, and thirteen capital burgesses. The aldermen are chosen from the burgesses, and the mayor from the aldermen. preamble to the charter of Philip and Mary states, among others, the following reasons for the grant, viz. " That the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the borough

HIGHAM-FERRERS.

of Higham-Ferrers, parcel of the dutchy of Lancaster, in the county of Northampton, have from the most ancient times been, with many liberties, privileges, and jurisdictions by their noble progenitors, by their letters patent, endowed, adorned, and honoured, and which they have used and enjoyed from time whereof, the memory does not remain, that the letters patent, partly for want of safe keeping, partly through some evil accident, have perished. That they being certified of the fidelity and service of the said subjects, not only by report, but of their own certain knowledge, especially in the rebellion of John dake of Northumberland, will, and do grant that Higham-Ferrers be a free borough corporate for ever." The mayor for the time being is the proprietor of a manor named Borough-hold, extending from Stump Cross north to Spittle Cross south. He holds a court once in three weeks to determine actions under £11, and a court-leet before the expiration of his office. The right of voting for members of parliament is vested in every housekeeper who receives no alms; but here, as in many other places, the freedom of election is completely shackled, and each vote is considered as part of the patrimonial estate : but though every vestige of freedom is thus lost, the ancient customs of a town corporate are continued. The mace is carried in state to the church by the mayor's bailiff, followed by the mayor and body corporate, on the following days:-the Sunday after the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, the Sunday immediately before the 29th of October and again or

RIGHAM-FERRERS.

the Sunday following, attended by the mayor and mayor elect. On the day of choosing the mayor there is also a grand procession, preceded by the mace-bearer, to the town-hall; and after spending the day in conviviality, and partaking of such cheer as corporations generally afford, the new mayor is lighted with torches in procession to his house.

By the Survey made in the time of the Conqueror. William Peverel was found to hold Hecham, or Higham, of the king: the whole manor, with its members and appendages, when given to him, was rated at £10, but at the Survey at £18. William Peverel, son of the before named, together with his successor, flying the kingdom, Henry II. seised his possessions for the use of the crown. In the first year of king John, William Ferrers, earl of Derby, who was heir to the lands of Peverel in right of his great grandmother, obtained this lordship, with the hundred and park of Higham, for himself and his heirs, by the service of one knight's fee. In the thirty-second year of Henry III. William de Ferrers obtained licence of free warren for himself and heirs in his manor of Higham. Upon the attainder of Robert earl of Ferrers, in the fiftieth year of Henry III. thislordship, with his other possessions, was granted to-Edmund, the king's youngest son, who was created earl of Lancaster, and died in the twenty-fourth year of Edward I. After his decease the manor was valued, and among its appendages were reckoned the profits of a market held

HIGHAM-FERRERS.

every Saturday, and of a fair yearly on St. Botolph's day. Thomas, successor to Edmund earl of Lancaster, obtained liberty for a fair to be held here yearly on the eve of St. Michael, and the two following days. earl entered into a confederacy with the earls of Warwick, Pembroke, and many others, against Piers de Gaveston, the favourite of Edward II. and, in consequence of his quality and peculiar merit, was chosen general of a large army, which was levied against the king and this imperious minion. That monarch, as if nothing was likely to disturb his pleasures, amused himself at York with Gaveston till almost the whole kingdom was in arms against his authority; at length, roused from his supineness, he began to adopt measures for the safety of himself and his favourite; but they were not only too late, but ill concerted; and after retreating from place to place, Gaveston found himself under the necessity of surrendering his person upon a precarious capitulation. On obtaining their prisoner there was much dissention among the barons with regard to his disposal; but the earl of Pembroke contending that he had pledged his honour to conduct him to the king upon certain conditions, the barons at length reluctantly consented. Pembroke intended to convey his prisoner to Wallingford castle, where the king was to come and speak with him, and taking the road toward Oxfordshire he came to Dodington, where he left Gaveston under a guard, and lodged himself in a neighbouring castle. This precaution was not of a nature which implied much



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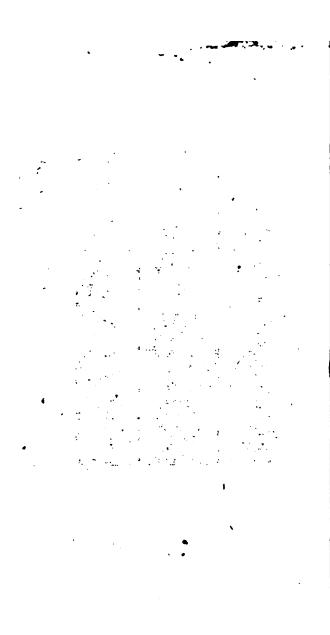
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suspicion; for the king having no troops in the neighbourhood, he little expected an interruption from his confederates; but the earl of Warwick, who was decidedly against the interview with the king, b ing informed how matters stood, came in the night where Gaveston lay under guard, took him away by force, and brought him to Warwick; and on the morrow he, with others of the violent party, having tried him in a hasty manner, beheaded him. This action, in the contrivance of which the earl of Lancaster was implicated in the king's opinion. drew upon him that deep resentment from Edward which terminated in his ruin; and though he received in form a general pardon, still his jealousy of the king's designs against his person kept him at a distance from the court, and he was looked to as an instrument ever ready to aid the motions of disaffection and revolt. afterwards confederated against the Spencers for the purpose of bringing them to justice; but failing in his endeavours, he retreated to Pontefract castle, from whence escaping, he was made prisoner by the king's troops at Boroughbridge, after a short skirmish, and again conveyed to Pontefract Castle, at which place the king and both the Spencers were. On the third day after his captivity he was brought to judgment, condemned, and beheaded. His lands, by this proceeding, reverting to the crown, the manor and castle of Higham-Ferrers were given to Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, Mary his wife, and their heirs. Thomas, the be-

fore-named earl of Lancaster, having no children, Henry, his younger brother, became his heir, and, not withstanding the attainder of his brother, he obtained livery of his lands, with the title and honour of earl of Leicester, and other favours from the king; but after the death of the elder Spencer, who was hanged at the age of ninety years, the queen, revolting from her husband, assumed the regal power, and detached Henry of Lancaster in quest of the king, who had retired into Wales: here he was soon discovered and taken prisoner, with Spencer the younger, and others attending upon his person. In the parliament assembled in the first year of Edward III. Henry obtained an act for reversing the attainder of his brother Thomas, and by virtue of it repossessed the earldoms of Lancaster and Leicester, with all his lands and lordships, which had been forfeited to the crown: at the same time Mary de St. Paul, relict of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, relinquished her pretensions to the castle and manor of Higham-Ferrers. This lordship was afterwards possessed by John of Gaunt, earl of Richmond, fourth son of Edward III. in right of Blanche his wife, daughter to the above-named Henry, who, in the early part of this reign, was created duke of Lancaster. Gaunt died in the twenty-second year of Richard II. leaving Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards Henry IV. his successor. The manor, as part of the dutchy of Lancaster, falling to the crown, was settled, with the castle and hundred, upon the archbishop of Canterbury.





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the bishop of Durham, and others. In the seventh year of Edward VI. they were given to William earl of Worcester; and returning again to the crown, Charles II. granted the manor to Catharine, the queen dowager, with reversion after her decease to Lewis earl of Feversham, of whom it was purchased by Thomas Wentworth, esq. It is now in the possession of earl Fitzwilliam. The castle, of which nothing remains, is supposed to have been built soon after the Ferrers' family became possessed of the lordship; it was situated near the church northward. The ground on which it stood is divided by a moat from east to west, the southern division containing about two acres, the northern four.

The church of Higham-Ferrers, which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, consists of a south aisle, one leading to the chancel, and two north aisles; they are separated from the chancel by screens of good workmanship, and have been ceiled with oak, of which there is now some remains, sculptured with roses and otherwise ornamented. On each side of the chancel were ten stalls, many of them now in a decayed condition; under the seats of them various devices are carved—the first on the right contains the head of archbishop Chicheley, the opposite one exhibits an angel holding a shield, with the arms of Chicheley and the see of Canterbury. In a window on the south side of the chancel are the arms of France and England quarterly, in stained glass, and in another the arms of Canterbury and Chicheley. The church and chancel

are in length one hundred and nineteen feet, and in breadth fifty-nine feet. The western aspect of this church is worthy of particular notice, from the great display of ornamental workmanship which it contains. The entrance is by two small doors flatly arched within a shallow porch; these doors are bordered by a number of figures in various attitudes, many of them much decayed: on the left side within the porch, is the figure of a musician with his instrument, which is of the guitar kind, in his hand, a wallet over his shoulder, and his feet ludicrously placed in the stocks. Immediately above the doors are ten circles, in which are represented the following subjects from the History of Our Saviour :-- 1. The Salutation of Mary and Elizabeth. 2. The Angel appearing to Zacharias. 3. The wise men with their offerings. 4. Christ teaching in the temple. 5. The Baptism of Christ. Angels appearing to the Shepherds. 7. The Crucifixion. 8. The Salutation of the Blessed Virgin. 9. The Disciples at the Sepulchre. 10. The Descent into Hell. These subjects, as well as the other decorations, have formerly been emblazoned in a curious manner,-The outer arch of the porch is handsomely moulded and supported by elegant columns, with capitals richly pierced. About the year 1630 the spire with part of the tower fell to the ground, and were rebuilt by benefactions, to which archbishop Laud was a contributor. The present tower, from the ground to the battlements, is seventy-one feet, and from the battlements to the top of the spire ninety feet.

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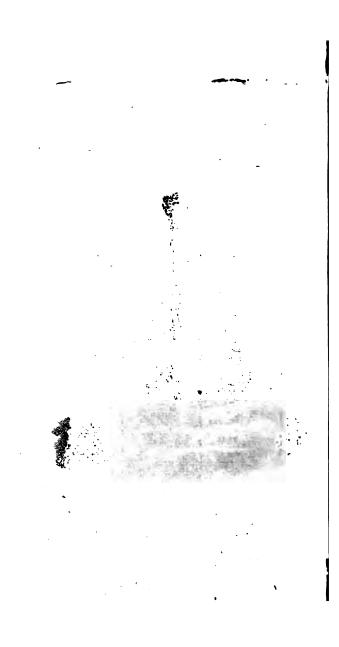
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tower is in some parts exquisitely ornamented; near the belfry windows are placed some finely-sculptured heads, probably relics of the old tower. On the north side of the tower, in the upper compartment of a window, is a figure with a pipe and tabor, apparently dancing to his own music. The spire is hexagonal, with crotchets at the angles.

In the churchyard is a handsome cross standing upon a large stone, the corners of which are hollowed away in the form of seats; its basement consists of four circular steps; the whole measures eleven feet from the ground; the shaft, exclusive of the head stone, issix feet in length. On the side of the circle near the footpath the steps have been removed, which presents a gap to the foundation of the cross, and though a few shillings in its present state would, if properly applied, secure its standing for centuries to come, it is much to be feared that it will soon meet the fate of many of its kind, and being tumbled from its base, its curious form, in the production of which much labour and skill have been employed, will probably be shivered to pieces, and afterwards pounded to dust upon the roads.

In the last year of Henry V. Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, who was born at Higham-Ferrers, and lies interred within the church, founded a college here, which he well endowed, for eight secular canons, of whom one was master, four clerks, one of whom was grammar-master, another music-master, and six choristers. By a Survey of the possessions of this college in the reign

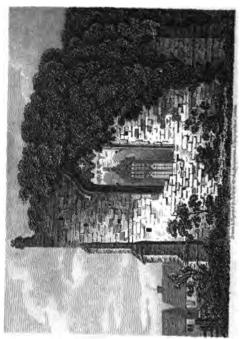
MIGHAM-PERRERS.

of Henry VIII. the revenues were valued at £204:5:6 yearly: it was surrendered to the crown by Robert Goldson, who was then master, and the rest of the fraternity, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry's reign. In the same year the greater part of the lands were granted to Robert Dacres, subject to the yearly payment of £10 to a superior and £8 to an inferior chaplain, £10 to a schoolmaster, besides certain other payments. In the sixth year of Elizabeth the college itself was given'to John Smith and Richard Duffield. The appointment of the chaplains as well as the schoolmaster belongs to the corporation.

Of the college little remains, and the lapse of a few years will perhaps find it entirely demolished: it is now in the possession of the steward of earl Fitzwilliam, who, with more than Gothic barbarism, is laying it waste, and building barns and stables on its site, and with its materials. It was originally built in a quadrangular form, with two wings projecting westward; the entrance on the southern side is now the most perfect of its remains.

In the Print annexed of Higham-Ferrers' Church is seen the school standing near its north-west corner; it was likewise built by archbishop Chicheley, and still remains in an almost perfect state: it is of stone, with embattlements of open work round the top; on each side are four buttresses headed by elegant pinnacles, the upper parts of which are broken off: on each side are three windows, and one larger window at each end; the windows on the north side are filled up, likewise that at the

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eastern end. Within the school is a stone pulpit ascended by winding steps, which are now scarcely passable. The roof is composed of the checker-work, each intersection ornamented with a rose; the whole is handsomely painted and gilt.

On the north side of the church stands the beadhouse or alms house, also founded by the same archbishop, who placed here twelve men and one woman to attend



eastern end. Within the school is a stone pulpit ascended by winding steps, which are now scarcely passable. The roof is composed of the checker-work, each intersection ornamented with a rose; the whole is handsomely painted and gilt.

On the north side of the church stands the beadhouse or alms house, also founded by the same archbishop, who placed here twelve men and one woman to attend them, with a daily allowance of one penny each. This building is much injured by neglect and the ravages of time; the interior is divided by screens of wood into several apartments or cells, some of them are now standing: every part is enveloped in cobwebs and dust, which receiving an almost perpetual motion from the flight of pigeons, its only tenants, renders it a place unfavourable for observation, and but seldom inspected. At the eastern end of the bead-house is a chapel, now entirely unroofed: the entrance to it was from the bead-house by an ascent of six steps. A crypt has lately been discovered under its floor, and the keystone being broken away, it now remains open, and may easily be descended from the interior of the chapel: though the original entrance appears to have been on the northern side from the churchyard. A few years since the windows of the chapel retained a portion of their painted glass, but now These curious fragments were not a shred remains. lately purchased of a glazier residing not far from the town of Higham-Ferrers for 7s. and again sold to an anti-

quary at the enormous advance of £25. On each side of the east window is a niche, and on the south side in a small cavity is a bason, probably for the reception of holy water.

Twelve of the oldest and most deserving men of the town are still continued as beadsmen. Thus the ancient charity of the archbishop, in this particular, is still continued by the corporation, though from the alteration of times and circumstances it is now become a very ineffectual relief.

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TWYWELL CHURCH,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

"TUIWELLA, or Twywell, is a village in the hundred of Huxloe. It is bounded on the north by Slipton, Isliss, and Lufwick, on the east and south by Woodford, on the west by Cranford, and is about three miles and a half from Thrapston. At the general Survey, three hides wanting one virgate and a half in Tuiwella were in the hands of the abbot of Thorney. This estate was valued at 10s. The possessions in Twywell, which belonged to Thorney abbey, were confirmed to the convent in 1162 by pope Alexander III. In the reign of Henry II. they were held by Albericus, the king's chamberlain, by the annual payment of £6, who also held here lands of the fee of earl David, and one great virgate of the fee of the abbot of Burgh.

The successor of Albericus was sir Robert de Vere, his second son, who held of the monks of Thorney, by the like yearly payment, the same lands which had been possessed by his father. In the twenty-fourth year of Henry III. he levied a fine of balf a virgate of land here; and by inquisition taken in this reign, was certified to hold in Slipton and Twywell half a knight's fee, of the honour of Huntingdon, of Ralph Morin, who held it of

TWYWELL CHURCH.

Henry de Hastings. In the twenty-fourth of Edward I. the abbot of Thorney held two parts of the township of Twywell of the king in frank-almoin, and John de Vere half a knight's fee in Twywell and Slipton of the heir of Baldwin Vere. In the ninth year of Edward II. the abbut of Thorney, the master of St. John's Hospital, and John de Lewkener, were lords of Twywell and its members. In the third of Edward III, the abbot of Thorney brought his action against John Daundelin for the recovery of six acres of wood in Twywell, as the right of the said abbey. The same year Hugh de Walmesford, on whom the manor of Twywell had been settled by Robert de Vere, was required by writ of qua warranto to shew cause why he pretended to have view of frank-pledge in this his manor, and toll of salt of all who passed through his demesnes with it for sale, which privileges he claimed as immemorially pertaining to the said manor.

After the dissolution of the monasteries this manor was given in the thirty-fifth of Henry VIII. to William lord Par. Being resumed by the crown, certain lands and tenements belonging to the late abbey of Thorney were granted to Robert earl of Leicester, in the sixteenth year of queen Elizabeth; and the year following, the manor and advowson of the rectory were given to John Dudley and John Ayscoughe, in exchange for lands within the isle of Shepey.

Beside the above mentioned manor, there was another in Twywell, which in the eighth of Richard II. was

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TWYWELL CHURCH.

in the hands of Richard de Walgrave, who then ôbtained licence of free warren in it. By a fine levied in the eighteenth year of Henry VI. sir Richard Walgrave. knight, settled this manor on Richard Walgrave his son, Alice his wife, and the heirs of their bodies: which Richard dving without issue in the thirty-first of the same reign, left Alice his wife in possession, and Thomas Walgrave, his brother and heir, seized of the reversion of it. By the inquisition then taken it was certified to be held of the abbot of Ramsey. In the eighteenth year of Edward IV. on the decease of Alice Walgrave, it came to William Walgrave, son of Thomas, brother and heir of the said Richard Walgrave. From this gentleman it came, in the nineteenth of Henry VIII. to George Walgrave his son, who left it at his death, in the next year, to William his son and successor, by whom a fine was levied of it in the twenty-fourth of this reign."

The Church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a body and south aisle, and possesses traces of considerable antiquity, but has lately suffered under the hands of a busy and injudicious churchwarden, who has occasioned the exterior to be scraped and chiselled over, so as to destroy the picturesque effect of moss-covered walls, and to give it a modern air, inconsistent with its style of architecture. Probably by this innovation some of the slighter ornaments have been obliterated; but, by an extraordinary instance of good fortune, the south door has escaped untouched, and the north one with a very gentle

TWYWELL CHURCE.

acraping. The same churchwarden has displayed a zeal worthy of the age of Cromwell, in cutting off all the carved heads which finished the wooden corbels of the react.

The south door is a good specimen of the early Norman style: the two mouldings of chevron work, at right angles to each other, have a rich and happy effect: the whole of this arch is in a very perfect state, excepting the head, which projects from the keystone, the upper part of which is broken off or decayed: the entire height is ten feet four inches. The north doorcase is a very beautiful and singular design; the entrance is about six feet high, and is carried up perpendicularly till within about a foot of the top, where it contracts, in consequence of the projection of a carved scroil on each side. Over the door is a semicircular moulding, ornamented with an embossed cross extending on each side much beyond the door; the space between is filled with reticulated work, composed almost entirely of one stone: immediately over the door is a stone of an almost half cylindrical form, with a raised ornament sweeping in opposite directions to the centre-this door is roundheaded within side, nearly corresponding with the exterior arch: the entrance is by a descent of three steps.

The body of the Church is divided from the aisle by two round-headed arches; the one next the chancel is of great antiquity, as appears by its form, and by the capital of the pilaster on which it rests: it is interrupted THE NEW YORK PORTOR, LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.



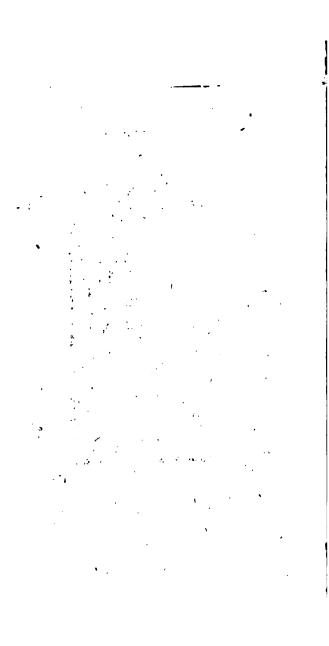
S. Door of Trywell Church Northamptonsh."

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TWYWELL CHURCH.

on, the west, before it has completed a semicircle, by an octangular pillar, considerably higher than the pilasters.

At the base of the pillar is the font, the upper part of which is an octagon and the lower circular; the smallest diameter is two feet six inches, and the height the same.

In the chancel within the altar rails is a stone erection, which has probably been formerly used as a sacristy; it projects from the north wall, and though the archwhich supports it is a segment of a circle, it is apparentlyof no great antiquity: its height is seven feet seven inches, length seven feet.

There are two basins for holy water in the Church, one is within the south door; this is of a singular and ancient form, and let into the wall but a very little way; the other is in the chancel, included in an elegant trefoil arch on the south side: the hollow for holding water is very shallow, and radiated from the centre. All the windows of the Church are pointed or square, excepting two very narrow round-headed ones, one on the north side, the other on the west termination of the south aisle. In the south wall on the outside, to the west of the porch, is a large semicircular arch, blocked up, but very distinct, though level with the surface of the wall.

The tower is small and low, measuring within but eight feet two inches square. About twenty feet from the ground there are the remains of four round-headed arches, one on each side, which have originally almost terminated the tower; on the outside there is no vestige

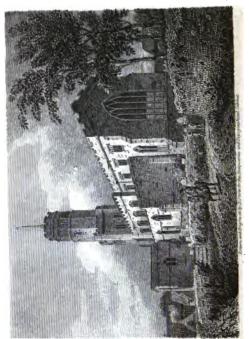
TWYWELL CHURCH.

of these arches, and they have probably been taken out of the wall on raising the steeple, and inserted in it to form the present arches, which are of the same dimensions as those which are discernible below them in the inside. This fact is of some importance, as it tends to prove the great antiquity of the original building, which the smallness and lowness of the tower is allowed to indicate, at least whose connected with certain other demonstrations of age. The length of this Church, including the chancel, is seventy-six feet, breadth of the body and aside thirty-two feet six inches.

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IRTLINBURGH, IRTHLINGBURY, IRTLING-BOROUGH, OR ARTLEBOROUGH CHURCH

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE Church of which we here present a south-east view, was formerly attached to a college of Irtlinburg, erected by the abbot and convent of Peterborough, and Joha Pyel, citizen and mercer of London (one of the commissioners to the states of Flanders, for redressing the griewances of the Eaglish merchants), by a license granted them by king Edward III. for six secular canons or prebendaries (of, whom one to be dean), and nine clerks, in the parish church of St. Peter of Irtlinburg; the right of presenting to the said canons' places to be in the abbot and convent of Peterborough, and in the said John Pyel, by turns; but the said John dying before this foundation was perfected, king Richard II., in consideration of twenty marks paid by Joan, the widow and executrix, granted her a license to complete the same.

The Church comprises a body and two aisles, a chancel and two cross aisles: the body is in length eighty-seven feet; the nave aisles fifty feet broad, and the cross aisles ninety feet long. At some distance from the west end of the Church, yet connected with it by the ruins of the college, stands a square embattled tower, fifteen feet by

IRTLINGBOROUGH CHURCH.

twelve; above which is an octagonal one; both together forming a height of ninety-nine feet. In each of these towers are three apartments; between the windows of the square tower are four small figures, probably of saints; and under them a bend between two mullets pierced.

In the wall, at the south side of the chancel, is a tomb of blue marble, the canopy supported by fretwork pillars; and also the tombs of a man and a woman, with labels. Near this is an alabaster tomb, with two figures cumbent, but no inscription; it has, however, been rationally conjectured to be that of the founder, John Pyel, and his wife Joan. On the north side of this chancel is another tomb, with the figure of a woman in alabaster, much defaced: this is thought to have belonged to dame Anne Cheyney. At the head of this, under arches, is a figure of a man in armour; his head on a cushion, and at his side a woman in the dress of the time.

The revenues, by the survey taken at the dissolution, twenty-sixth of Henry VIII. amounted to £70:16:10 $\frac{1}{2}$; from which deducting £6:4 for rents and pensions, there was left a clear income of £64:12:10 $\frac{1}{2}$. The master of the college being both vicar and parson, a vicarage, of course, was endowed.

Artleborough, for so it is most commonly (though corruptly) called, is about two miles from Higham Ferrers.

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DE LA PRE ABBEY,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE Abbey of St. Mary de la Pré, or de Pratis (i. e. in the meadows), near Northampton, was a Priory of Cluniao nuns, founded by Simon de St. Liz, the first earl of Northampton and Huntingdon; which foundation, and all the lands given to it, as well by the said earl as others, were recited at large in, and confirmed by, the charter of king Edward III. in the second year of his reign, which will be found in the Monasticon.

Milo Beauchamp, of Eaton, with the consent of Pagan Beauchamp, his heir, gave a rent of 3s. per annum to this nunnery, which the brethren of St. John's hospital at Northampton had usually paid him, for certain lands called Hirksale. William de Vipount also gave certain lands in Hardisthorne to the nuns here; and Agatha, the widow of William de Albini, gave to these nuns four oxgangs of land, two in Brandstone, and two in Falclive.

At the dissolution, according to Dugdale, it was valued at £119:9:7½ per annum.

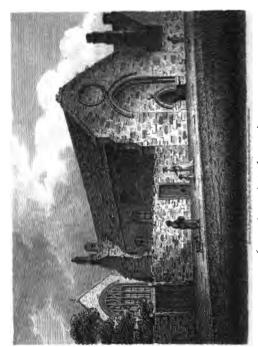
This Abbey was a seat of the Tate's, who, in the time of James I. married a coheiress of lord Zouch, of Harringworth; it is at present the residence of the hon. Edward Bouverie, uncle of the earl of Radnor, and mem-

DE LA PRE ABBEY.

ber for Northampton. The house stands in the meadows, one mile from the London road. Considerable alterations have taken place in the building since it became a family residence; and almost the only external remains of its antiquity are to be seen in the annexed View. The gardens are extensive, and the grounds are laid out with considerable taste; a vista has lately been epened through the trees, admitting to the house a view of the venerable cross which stands in its vicinity.

In the time of Henry VI, there was a great tattle fought on the hill without the south gate of Northampton; and many of the slain were buried in this Abbey. THE NAME OF THE PURLIC LAND AND A PARTY

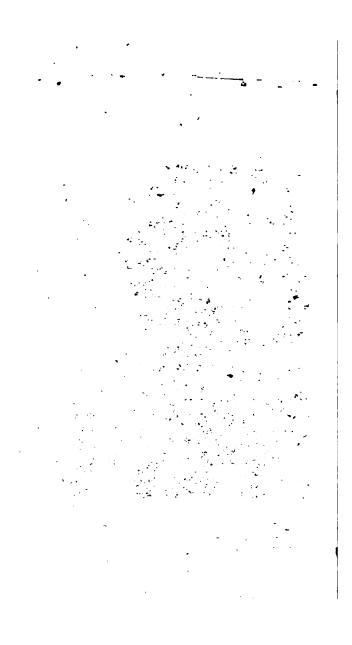
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ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL,

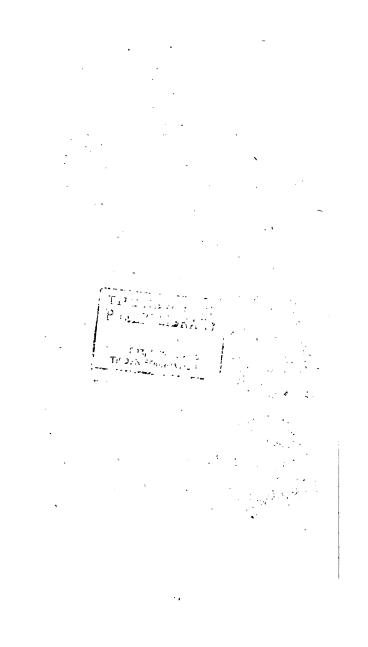
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE founder of this Hospital, and the exact age in which it was established, are not known. Leland writes. "St. John's Hospital was originally founded by one William Sainte Clerc, archidiacon of Northampton, and brother to one of the Simon Sainte Clercs, as sum of St. John's name them, but as I have redde alway they were caulid Saincteliz and not St. Clerc." In the first year of Edward III. an inquisition was taken, by which this place appeared to have been erected 189 years prior to the said inquest, by Walter, archdescon of North. ampton, for the reception and maintenance of infirm poor. In the number of archdeacons of Northampton no mention is made of Walter, but the name of William occurs possessed of that dignity in the year 1168. This house had rents and possessions in various parts of Northamptonshire and other counties: according to a survey by Henry VIII. the revenues clear of all deductions, in quit rents, pensions, and officers' salaries, amounted to Sir Francis Briant, whose fee was 10s. £57:19:6. yearly, was then high steward of the house, in which eight poor persons were maintained at 2d. a day each. The control of this Hospital is vested in a master and two

ST. JOHE'S HOSPITAL.

co-brothers: the co-brothers, who officiate as chaplains, are in holy orders, but it is not requisite that the master be a clergyman—the salaries of the chaplains are £5 each annually, besides 11s. in lieu of fire wood, and 10s. on the renewing of leases. Eight poor people, appointed by the master, are lodged here, with an allowance of 1s. 11d. weekly; firing is provided for them in the common hall for this purpose. Lord Northampton pays yearly £10 instead of wood out of Yardley chme.

The Hospital combits of a chapel, a ball, lodging for the poor, and two upper rooms for the chaplains; the master has a good house and garden. The windows and doors of the Hospital are of considerable antiquity; but many parts have been altered by reparation at different periods: the chapel has lately been fitted up at the expense of one of the masters. Some fragments of painted glass are preserved in the windows; in one of them is the entire portrait of a man with a creater in his hand and a mitre on his head; near him is another figure in the posture of prayer.





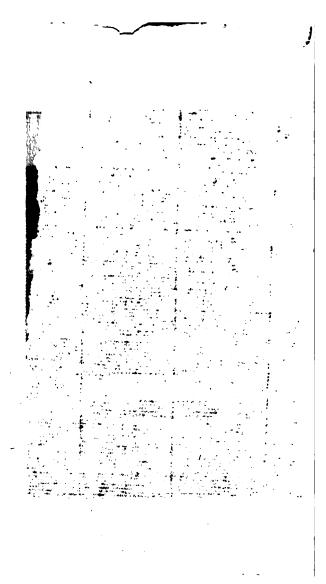
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ASHBY CANONS,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Ashby Canons received its appellation in part from a priory of black canons, founded here by Stephen de Leye, in the reign of Henry II. The annual revenues at the dissolution were valued at £112:8:4½, and the site of the house with the possessions belonging to the monks, were granted to sir Francis Bryan, from whom they passed to sir John Cope. Nothing remains of the monastery but the small church, in which are sepulchral monuments of several of the Dryden family, who came into possession of the manor after the Copes.

The mansion house, at present the seat of sir John Dryden, is a moderate-sized structure, built in an age when strength and durability were more consulted in architectural designs than regularity or symmetry. A few years since it received some repairs and embellishments, out of the ruins of the residence of the Copes above mentioned. The only thing remarkable in the present building is a room thirty feet by twenty, which is said to be entirely floored and wainscotted with the timber contained in a single oak tree, which grew on this lordship.

ASHRY CANONS.

Not far from Ashby Canons is the village of Green's Norton, which gives title to the hundred. In this village, it is generally supposed, was born the celebrated lady, eminently distinguished both for virtue and rank, queen Catharine Parr, and her brother William, marquis of Northampton. On the marriage of their father, sir Thomas Parr, knt. with Maud, one of the co-heiresses of sir Thomas Green, he came to reside at this place. Catharine having been introduced at court, soon found means to engage the affections of the amorous king Henry VIII. and became his sixth wife.

In the church are a few monuments worthy of notice. On an altar tomb are the effigies of a man in armour, and his wife in the dress of the time, in white marble. The first represents Thomas Green, who died in the time of Edward III. Other memorials of the Green family are found here in different stones, brasses, and fragments of stained glass. The font in this church is ancient and curious.

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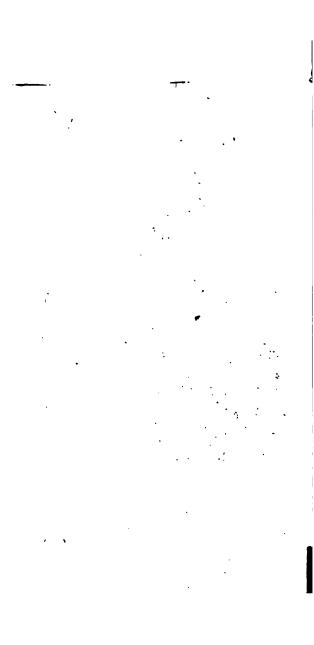
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WOLLASTON.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

WOLLASTON, anciently called Wolavestone, is a village within a few miles of Higham Ferrers. According to Bridges it contains about 154 houses and 688 inhabitants: it is agreeably situated, having for its boundary on the north the river Nyne; on the west the villages of Grindon and Strixton; Irchester on the east; and Harold park on the south. At the west end of the town is a place called Hall Yard, where, according to tradition, was formerly a mansion-house. The church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and built in the form of a cross, having a body, north and south aisles, with a cross aisle from north to south, and a chancel. The church, including the chancel, measures in length 119 feet; the breadth of the body and aisles are forty-nine feet nine inches; the length of the eross aisle is sixty-eight feet; in the centre of this is. raised a handsome tower with a tall spire.

In the year 1254 the rectory of Wollaston, deducting a pension of 25s. yearly to the prior of St. Andrew's, was valued at thirty-four marks; and the vicarage, with a deduction of 10s. in a pension to the abbess of De la. Pré, at 100s. In the twenty-sixth year of Henry VIII. the vicarage was rated at £13:9:8, from which was

WOLLASTON.

taken 3s. for procurations and synodals. The governors of queen Anne's bounty released it from the payment of first fruits and tenths, an account of its clear annual profits amounting to no more than £25:3:8. Wollaston, with a moiety of Strixton, was held in the ninth year of Edward II. by Robert de Gray and William de Wollaston. In succeeding times it was easied the Manor of Wollaston; and in the twentieth of Henry VIII. was the property of William Wolston, of Wollaston. The present losd of the manor is Francis Dickins, esq. late member for the county.

The subjoined View was taken at the foot of a remarkable mound, called Mill Hill, within a furlong south of the church. This eminence, which is about half an acre in circumference, is supposed to have been a Roman specula; it commands extensive prospects, particularly towards the west. There are two similar mounds near Wollaston; the most distinguished is called Clifford Hill, distant about four miles: this may be seen nearly to its base from the summit of Mill Hill, and strengthens the conjecture of their having been posts of observation communicating with each other.

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ESSENDINE CHURCH,

RUTLANDSHIRE.

THIS Church was originally the chapel of the castle of Essendine. It stands within the circuits of the outer most by which the castle was surrounded; and was given about the latter end of the reign of king Henry II. to Baldwin Bueloth, who had married Rohesia, the widow of William de Bussey, or Bussew. With the consent of his wife, and the heirs of the said William de Bussey, he gave and granted in perpetual alms, to the monks of St. Andrew, in Northampton, twelve acres of land in his demesnes at Essendine, in consideration of which, the said. monks obliged themselves to find a chaplain to reside continually in Essendine, and to supply the cure of the Chapel there. The southern door of the Church is, beyond question, the most ancient specimen that the county. of Rutland, which, abounds in Saxon and Norman remains, can produce of English architecture. Other parts of the chapel are not of so high antiquity. The arch which separates the Church from the chancel is pointed, but has the rude zigzag ornament on the mouldings; and in the west end of the Church, was a window of the lancet kind, now blocked up on the outside, which, though old, is of a date subsequent to the arch which separates

ESSENDINE CHURCH.

the Church from the chancel. And the chancel is of a more recent date than the west end of the Church.

The whole length of the chapel is sixty-nine feet clear, of which the chancel is twenty-six feet. The nave is about sixteen feet wide, the chancel rather less. Mr. Blore, of Stamford, to whom the public will shortly be indebted for a history of Rutlandshire, observes, "I have generally found the fonts, and the principal doors of entrance into the churches in this county, more ancient than any other parts of those edifices. But I do not know how to account for it, unless some idea of greater sanctity was attached to them, which operated to their preservation when other parts of the original buildings were taken down."

When the Danes invaded England, about the year 1016, the then baron of Essendine, with the men of Stamford, gave them battle near that town, and beat them back. Essendine still gives the title of baron to the marquis of Salisbury.

TILLIAN FOUNDATIONS



Mad Bulge Sweeter

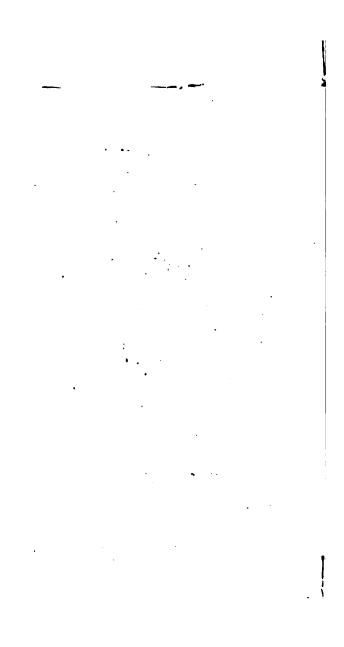
WEST BRIDGE, LEICUSTICA

LFICESTERNILLE.

It is the species exercise of a the rice resemble and his agreeningly arches. It is torre years to all well, on toris mass the center; has a man one of every early such as a consequent, or parapet will be obtained above the present. One arches is private to the transfer are moved, it can this Bridge to be an one Gate too has is 204 words, inclining to the south.

On the set who of the Vent Bridge is a dwellingorder, resting in the effective order missing under it a contributing at order or the train, and the back part continuing at order of the the state work, it is was the a mappel with a nels on the south, west side a count, the city the choframe of the full remains, the could window the scale which it miss play is support up for two monificant if are asked into the the bench of the count, the specific poorly of the Black brians.

The course age, all you lately, a boot bridge coworld over who hy with try, a strongled Bow Parel, to be gain a it consists of one large arch, like a box, strong room the large age the West Bridge, over a book over of the Song to the close of a garden called Box



WEST BRIDGE, LEICESTER,

LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE West Bridge is erected ever the river Soar, and has four high arches. It is forty yards long, six wide, on both sides the centre; but at the centre five yards six inches: its parapet wall is also unequal, yet, on an average, may be four feet high above the pavement. One arch is pointed, the other three are round. From this Bridge to Braunston Gate Bridge is 204 yards, inclining to the south.

On the south side of the West Bridge is a dwelling-house, resting on its edge, the water passing under it through the arch nearest the town, and the back part continuing above the water on the stone-work, that was once a chapel with a bell on the south-west side without, near the top, the frame of which still remains, though the window through which it might play is stopped up. Here two mendicant friars asked alms for the benefit of the neighbouring priory of the Black Friars.

There was also, till very lately, a foot-bridge, covered over wholly with ivy, and called Bow Bridge, because it consisted of one large arch, like a bow, striding from the friary near the West Bridge, over a back water of the Soar, to the close of a garden called Bow

WEST BRIDGE, LRICESTER.

Churchyard, and, by the narrowness of it, was evidently only a foot-bridge, for the use of the friars, to a constant spring of limpid water, on the pared road-side, a few paces distant, called St. Austin's Well, still everflowing with contributions to the back water; and it is probable that the ground by the side of it, now enclosed with a brick wall, was a garden belonging to the priory.

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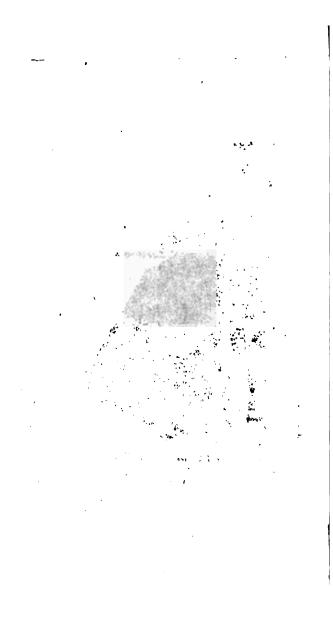
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On the vest of Stant 1485, the day will be reoded the outrie, he had entered Leicester with great and at on on he his army, consisting principally of the however entered not to woodivisions, the first divition increhed two in a tank, then followed the how garre, most the how gargeously apparelled, mounted upon a



BLUE BOAR INN, LEICESTER,

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Theon the defeat of Richard III. in the memorable battle of Market Bosworth, all the memorials of his congniscance, which was a Blue Boar, were torn down and demolished; and it is supposed that this Inn afterwards became the sign of the Blue Bell. A piece of glass, taken from one of the windows, was in preservation, a few years since, on which was painted a Blue Bell. From this circumstance, the conjecture may have arisen, The building, for the most part, is evidently of the age of Richard. The chimney, on that side of it which is in Blue Boar Lane, appears to be an erection of some earlier period: it is built of thin brick and tiles, ornamented, in many places, with wrought stones; the room in which the king lay is very large; the timbers which support it are adorned with the vine tendril. painted in vermillion.

On the 21st of August 1485, the day which preceded the battle, Richard entered Leicester with great pomp, attended by his army, consisting principally of foot: it was separated into two divisions; the first division marched five in a rank, then followed the baggage, mext the king, gorgeously apparelled, mounted upon a

SLUE BOAR INN, LEICESTER.

large white courser, richly caparisoned, and attended by his body guard: the second division then followed, marching also five abreast. The few horse that he had formed the wings of the army, and were stationed close to the centre.

The battle which decided the long dispute between the houses of York and Lancaster, lasted but two hours. Richard's body was found among the slain, naked, and besmeared with blood and dirt; and in that state it was thrown across a horse, with the head hanging down on one side and the legs on the other, and so carried to Leicester. The body lay two whole days exposed to the view of the people, after which it was interred without ceremony, in one of the churches of that city. THE VEY 1. B PUBLIC LIGHTS

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L' Mary's Church, Courte

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LEICESTER,

LEICESTERSHIRE.

'St. MARY'S CHURCH exhibits the architecture of a great variety of periods, occasioned by the damage it has sustained in common with the castle, near which it stands. The chancel is Saxon, and probably the finest remains of that kind in the county. Robert de Bellomont, after he had obtained the earldom of Leicester from Henry I. among other acts of mercy, for the health of his soul, rebuilt the Church of our Lady within the castle, placing therein secular canons, and enriching them with various donations. His son Robert, who was the founder of an abbey at Leicester, transferred many of his father's endowments from this Church to that religious sanctuary; but not willing to destroy the effect of all his father's good intentions towards the Church, he placed therein eight canons, one of whom was a dean. These continued till the general dissolution. In the vestry is still to be seen a chest, called an arch, in which there is a convenience for hanging their several vestments. The hooks are seven in number, somewhat resembling a kitchen crane.

One of the canons was vicar of the parish, and instituted by the bishop till the year 1400, when it was

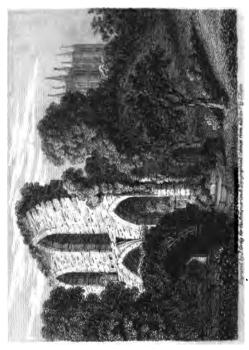
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LEICESTER.

ordained, with the consent of the bishop, that hereafter whoever was made dean, should be vicar. The charges attendant upon this Church were paid partly by the parishioners and partly by the dean.

It appears, that in Leland's time, in the college within the parish Church of St. Mary, there were only seven resident priests, and that the vicar had a pension of £8 per summ, and no other profits, save his mansion-house, and a little garden, upon the west side of the college. The revenues of this college being granted to Edward Holt, esq. by queen Elizabeth, and at length to the corporation of Leicester, in fee-farm, occasioned the vicars to be in some measure dependant upon that body, which, being entitled to all the profits of the dean and canons, had consequently the churchyard, small tythes, and offerings, in other places belonging to the vicar: at different times, however, considerable additions have been made to the living.

St. Mary's Church has suffered from the warring elements, as well as from military operations. In 1757, the day on which admiral Byng was shot, one of the windows of the spire was blown out; and in June, 1763, the steeple was damaged by lightning: again, on the 10th of July, 1783, the lightning struck one of the steeple windows, and split the stone-work down to the battlements: in consequence, the steeple was wholly taken down. It was soon after rebuilt in the original form, and of the same dimensions.

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EPISCOPAL PALACE, LINCOLN.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE situation of the Episcopal Palace at Lincoln, is on the south side of the hill, near the summit, which Leland describes as hanging in declivio.

This once magnificent structure was began by bishop Robert de Chisney, to whom the site was granted by king Henry II. being the whole of the land including the foss, from the wall of the Bail of Lincoln, by St. Nicholas' church, to that of St. Andrew, and from thence east to the city wall; free and quit of landgavel partage, and all other things, with free licence to break a gate through the bail wall for his passage to and from the church. This bishop also founded St. Catharine's priory, but, by his public spirit in building and other munificent acts, he involved his see considerably in debt: he gave up the patronage of St. Alban's abbey, by which act the see of Lincoln lost that and fifteen parishes, whose manors belonged to it. He died January 26, 1167, and was buried in the cathedral.

Hugh, commonly called St. Hugh Burgundus, who was consecrated September 2, 1188, enlarged this mansion with several apartments; some of which were of great magnificence: he began the grand hall, which

EPISCOPAL PALACE, LINCOLN.

measures eighty-five feet in length from north- to south, and fifty-eight broad, from east to west. The roof was evidently supported by two rows of pillars, of Pusbeck marble: part of the pilasters, supported by corbel tables, are vet remaining at each end; these, being of octagonal shape, convey the opinion that the other pillars, as well as the materials, were of the same sort: the middle aisle, measuring from centre to centre of each pilaster, is thirty-three feet, and each side one twelve feet and a half. Four double windows on each side lighted this sumptuous room, and an elegant screen at the south end, of three pointed arches, now walled up with bricks, opened a communication with the principal apartments and kitchen, by means of a bridge of one large pointed arch. grand entrance was at the south-west corner, through a beautiful regular pointed doorway, supported by clustered columns, with detached shafts and foliated capitals; two other recesses, with very high-pointed arches. one on each side, give peculiar spirit and elegance to the design. Attached to this entrance was once a porch. or vestibule, the present remains of which bespeak it to have been a structure of superior taste and elegance. This princely hall was finished by Hugh II. his successor, and doubtless furnished with all the pomp and magnificence peculiar to the age. Like many other works of architectural skill, it has, however, been obliged to submit to Time's unfeeling grasp, and the place where once the costly banquet stood arrayed in alk

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EPISCOPAL PALACE, LINCOLN.

the ostentatious luxury of ecclesiastic greatness, has now its mouldering walls covered with fruit trees, and the centre appropriated to the purpose of a flower-garden. Bishop Hugh likewise built the famous kitchen in which were seven chimnies, the relics of gluttony, and once preludes to voracious gormandizing.

Bishop Le Bek contributed something towards improving this Palace, but no memorials exist to point out what these improvements were.

William Alnwick, bishop of Norwich, was translated to the see of Lincoln in September 1436, and was a considerable benefactor to both cathedrals; to his munificence and taste the Palace was indebted for the great entrance, tower, and curious chapel. The tower, which is yet tolerably entire, is a specimen of excellent stone-work; it is a square building, with a large turret, at the north-west corner, in which is the remnant of a very fine, winding, stone staircase, leading to the rooms above: at some previous period, these were elegant apartments, but the ceilings have long since gone to decay, and the lower chamber is now filled with fragments of fallen battlements, intermixed with wild vegetation.

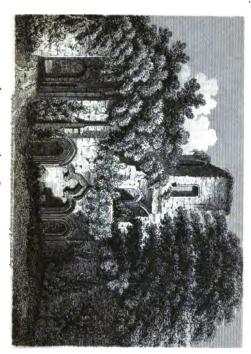
The bottom part of this tower has answered the purpose of a porch, or vestibule, and formed a communication with several apartments: the principal entrance is in the middle of the north side; on the south, and near the east corner, is another, leading at present into an

EPISCOPAL PALACE, LINCOLN.

open court, but probably at some period to different parts of the building; that on the west led to the and hall, and another, on the east side, into a most elegant vaulted passage, which appears to have opened into the chapel. This porch has plain walls, but the roof is finely groined; the ribs spring from the middle of each side, and from a small clustered pillar, in each corner. The arms of bishop Alnwick, a cross moline, are on the spandrils of the entrance arch, and also, upon the ancient wooden door; they likewise serve to ornament the bow window, which has been a piece of exquisite workmanship.

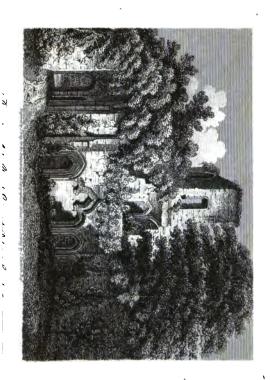
The curious chapel, built by the same munificent prelate, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, had, in one of the windows, lines commemorating the saint and the founder. The walls and roof were almost eatire in 1727, but since that period it has been destroyed, and all the materials removed; sufficient, however, has escaped the ruthless mallet, to shew that it once exhibited a beautiful specimen of pointed architecture.

Those parts of the ruins next the city show three ponderous buttresses, supposed to have been built by bishop Williams, dean of Westminster, and keeper of the great seal, who was consecrated bishop of Lincoln November 17, 1621. Few years, however, elapsed before the sanguinary civil war carried terror and desolation wherever it directed its course, and smote down, with fanatic frenzy, many works of labour and of art. During



Remains of the Chapel Champal Salar - Courte

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EPISCOPAL PALACE, LINCOLN.

ivy, forms one of the most picturesque subjects that this ancient city can boast. The gloomy vaults, broken arches, and ruined towers, decorated with creeping evergreens, commanding a prospect over the lower town and five aeighbouring counties, render the Palace garden one of the most delightful, as well as picturesque spots, that can be found in a range over the whole extensive county of Lincoln.

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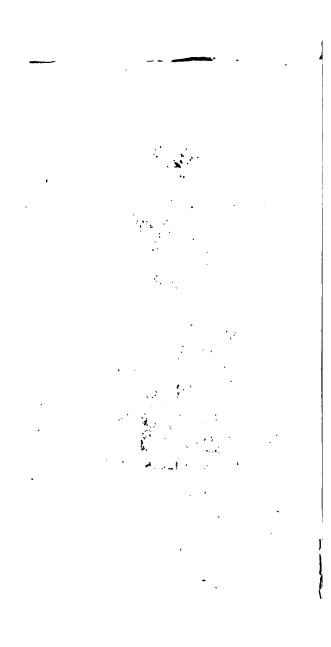


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MONK'S HOUSE,

LINCOLN.

This was a Benedictine cell for a few monks, given to the abbey of St. Mary at York, along with various donations in the city and fields of Lincoln by king Henry II. it was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and at the time of its dissolution was valued by Dugdale at £23:6:3, and by Speed £26:1:3; it was granted in the thirty-seventh of Henry VIII. to John Bellow and John Broxholm.

According to Leland, this was the site of Icanhoc, or Ycanno, where St. Botolph erected a monastery in 654 upon a desert piece of ground, which is said to have been given him for that purpose by Ethelmund, king of the South Angles; this religious establishment continued till that fatal devastation of these countries by the Danes in 870. Leland's words are these; "Sum hold opinion that est of Lincoln were 2 suburbes, one towards S. Beges, a late a cell to S. Mari Abbay at York: the which place I take to be Icanno, wher was an house of monkes yn S. Botolphes tyme, and of this spekith Bede: it is scant half a mile from the minster."—But bishop Tanner supposes Leland to be in an error when he calls it St. Beges, and thinks that the mistake origi-

MONE'S HOUSE.

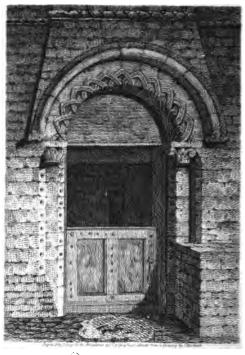
nated on account of St. Beges, or St. Bees in Cumberland, being a cell of the same abbey at York.

The ruin is but a trivial one, consisting of dilapidated walls which belonged to three or four rooms, and the remains of a small chapel, the architecture of which is subsequent to the date of the grant made by Henry II. it is situated, as Leland observes, "scant half a mile from the minster," in a south-east direction, at the foot of the hill, and about 300 yards from the north bank of the Witham, upon a gentle acclivity, and in a very secluded situation.

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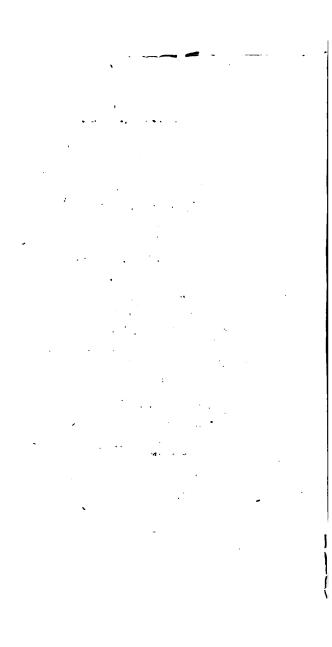
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THE JEW'S HOUSE, LINCOLN,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

FOR what purpose this curious antique building was erected, is only known by conjecture; but as its appearance bears strong marks of Saxon architecture, it is reasonable to suppose that its original destination was not for the residence of a Jew, as we find, from history, that these people were not known in England previous to the Norman conquest: its present title was therefore most probably attached to it in the eighteenth year of Edward I. when its inhabitant, Belaset de Wallingford, a Jewess, was hanged at Lincoln, for clipping.

When forfeited by its unfortunate owner, it was granted to a William de Foleteby, and by his succeeding brother was given to canon Thornton, who afterwards conveyed it to the dean and chapter of the see of Lincoln, in whose possession it still remains.

Its situation is on the west side of the hill, nearly at the bottom, opposite to what is called Bull-ring Lane. The entrance door stands in the middle of the front, and is well worth the attention of the antiquary; it has a circular arch, which has been supported by a column on each side, surmounted by rude imitations of the Corinthian capital. This arch is ornamented with a

THE JEW'S HOUSE, LINCOLN.

port of fanciful carving, connected together like the links of a chain: the head of the arch is filled with modern brick-work; above is a circular canopy, supporting a chimney; the lower part contains two flues and fireplaces, one on each side the door, which unite above the arch into one. The lewer windows are altered from their original form, but two that give light to the chambers have circular tops, ornamented with a kind of cable moulding; that towards the south end, is in its original state, and supported by two short pillars with capitals, like those of the doorway; it is divided into two circular topped lights, and once had a middle multion; that towards the other end is more modernized; a small window, with a pointed top, filled with a trefoil, is between these, and situated near the south projection of the chimney; a cable moulding runs along the whole front at the bottoms of these windows, and one in a line with the imposts of their arches, of more fanciful workmanship.

In one of the chambers is a recess, with a triangular head, which has given rise to a supposition that it might probably have been a small religious establishment anterior to the Norman conquest, and that this niche was designed for the effigy of its patron saint; but if another conjecture may be allowed, it seems more adapted to the reception of a holy-water basin, being very low, and in width equal, if not greater, than its height, which is certainly an inconsistent form for the reception of a statue.

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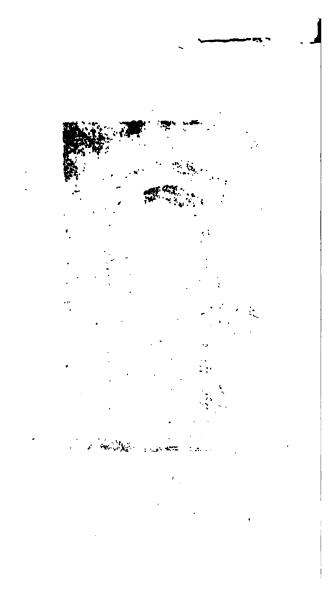
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SOUTH DOOR, COLBY CHURCH,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

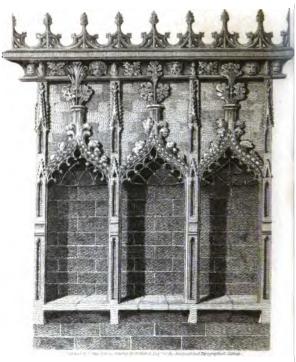
COLBY is a small village in the hundred of Boothby, and county of Lipcoln, and is distant about eight miles to the south of Lincoln. The south entrance to the church, of which a View is given, is of Norman architecture, and may probably be regarded as an imitation of the entrances in the west front of the cathedral church of Lincoln, executed with less skill, and at a late period. It is distinguished by the irregularity and variety of ornament and decoration, which is the peculiar characteristic of the architecture of the age in which it was erected. The foliage which fills up the angles formed by the lozenge ornament, which surrounds the outer moulding of the arch, is varied both in the form and disposition of the leaves; and the capitals of the columns are marked with the same irregularity of ornament.

The font which is coeval with the entrance, is a beautiful specimen of the Norman style of ornament. It is surrounded with an arcade of circular arches,

SOUTH DOOR, COLEY CHURCH.

executed in a superior style; and it still retains all its original sharpness and beauty. The remaining part of the church is in a different style, and contains nothing interesting.





Stone Stalle, Leverton Church, Loncolnoker

Published for the Proprieties by W. Larke, Nov. And St. J. Supercar, AM Bond S. Torrachita.

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STONE STALLS, AT LEVERTON,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

LEVERTON is a village, in the hundred of Skirbeek and parts of Holland, in the county of Lincoln, about seven miles north-east from Boston, of considerable extent, and situated near the centre of a rich district, locally denominated the East Holland Towns, long famous for the property of fattening the Lincolnshire breed of cattle and sheep for the London market.

The living is a rectory; the church, dedicated to St. Helen, is in a perfect state, having at no remote period received a considerable repair; from which cause neither the body of the church nor the steeple, present (externally at least) any field for the observation of the antiquary: the chancel however makes him ample amends, giving a good specimen of ecclesiastic architecture of the fourteenth century. Adjoining the south side of it is a chantry, now used as the parish vestry, an object of no inconsiderable interest for his contemplation; but he will be completely gratified with the subject represented by the annexed Engraving, the Stone Stalls in the south wall of the chancel, to describe which the pen seems not to possess an adequate power; the reader is therefore

STONE STALLS, AT LEVERTON.

referred for a full and clear idea of this beautiful example of the English style of architecture to graphic elucidation.

For a great length of time had this respectable object of antiquity received repeated applications of quick lime, whitewash, or yellow ochre, as best agreed with the churchwarden's ideas of cleanliness and beauty, laid on with an sparing hands, until it became screened from the eye of common observers.

From this obscure and degraded state it was recovered about two years past, by the discernment and taste of the present worthy rector, the rev. J. Caparn, under whose direction it has received a careful and complete dressing.

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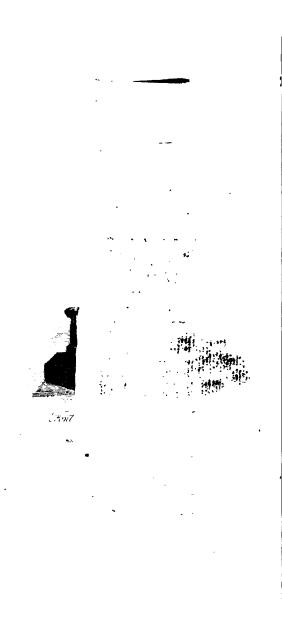
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FONT AT BENNINGTON,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Bennington is a pleasant village, situated in the hundred of Skirbeck and parts of Holland, in the county of Lincoln, about five miles north-east from Boston, in the midst of a fertile grazing district; in the population of which is found, an abundant proportion of opulence, refined manners, and hospitality; and in the lower classes of its society comfort, good order, and contentment; the effects of rational subordination to the laws when justly administered.

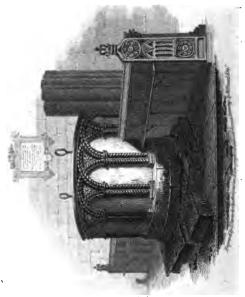
The number of resident inhabitants in the parish of Bennington by the return of 1801, was 362.

The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £33:8:11½; the church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a handsome and respectable building, kept in excellent repair and with great neatness. The Font, of which a representation is given in the annexed Engraving, is covered with sculpture, the design of which had an evident allusion to the dedication of the church, all the saints being carved in the various compartments, except the east face, where the sculptor has thrown two divisions into one, and with the impious liberties of the then times, has attempted to personify the Deity.

PONT AT BENNINGTON.

There is no date, &c. on this curious subject whereby to determine the age of it, but from the style of ornament a conjecture is hazarded that it was erected about the middle of the fourteenth century. THE NEW YORK PHELIC LIBRARY

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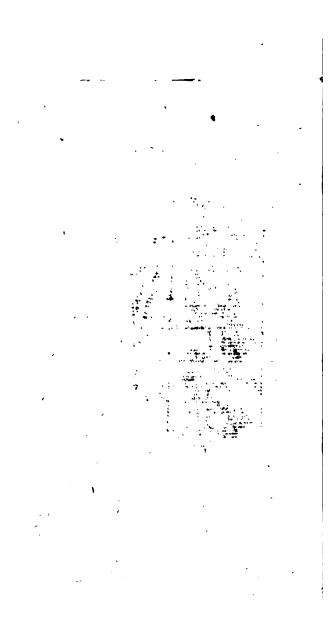
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FONT IN SILK WILLOUGHBY CHURCH.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOUT two miles from Sleaford, near the centre of the unty of Lincoln, is the respectable village of Silk Wilughby, through which passes the great road from Lonin to Lincoln and Hull. The Church, like most others this district, is remarkable for its beauty, especially e tower, which is terminated by an elegant stone spire. obably raised about the middle of the fourteenth cenry: the Church is a very fine specimen of the pointed yle of architecture. The Font is of a much older date, id bears indubitable evidence, both in sculpture and chacter, of being the production of artists of no inconsiderle talents about the time of the Norman conquest. The rm of the base is circular, composed of four receding inths of masonry, the arrangement of which has been uch disturbed by time and accident; the uppermost surse serves as a fascia, sustaining the body of the Font; is is of cylindrical form, in diameter about four feet, ad in height three; it is surrounded by an arcade of inresting arches, supported by a colonnade of double illars, ornamented with spiral lines or cable-laid carvig, the whole crowned with an astragal. The baptistry very large, which being a characteristic of all ancient

FORT IN SILK WILLOUGHBY CHURCH.

fonts, seems to indicate that our forefathers considered immersion as the true form of baptism, and a necessary mode to be observed even in the admission of infants into the pale of the Christian church.

The annexed Print also represents a back view of one of the long seats with which the areas of village churches in this neighbourhood were formerly furnished.

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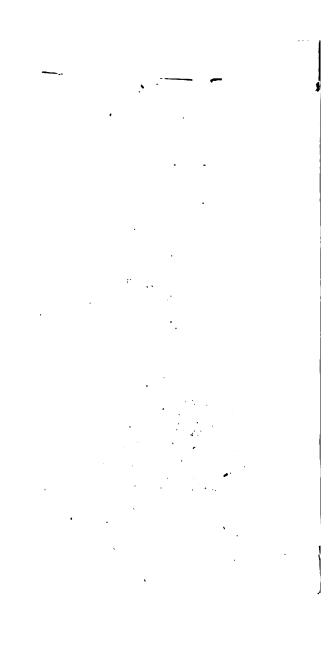
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CROSS AT SOMERSBY.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Somersby is a small village in the hundred of Hill, and parts of Lindsey, in the county of Lincoln, situate six miles north-east from Horncastle, and an equal distance north-west from Spilsby. The number of resident inhabitants, returned under the directions of the population act in 1801, amounted only to seventy-six; the money raised in 1803, on a parish rate of 2s.5d. in the pound, scarcely exceeded £53.

The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the king's books at £4:16:5½, and has private patronage. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small stone building, with a low square tower, without one single trait to draw the attention of the antiquary, or employ the pencil of the artist; but though the church is thus destitute of interest, the precinct with which it is inclosed, contains a curiosity, well worthy of being preserved, in the stone Cross at Somersby, now (1806) standing in a state of perfect originality in front of the south side of the church, rather inclining east from the porch, as represented in the annexed Print; the extreme height, including the subcourse, on which rests the base, is fifteen feet, the medium length of each transom, exclusive

CROSS AT SOMERSBY.

of the pediment, eleven inches; on the south face of which are extended the arms of a figure, representing the crucified Saviour; and on the opposite side, facing the church, on the shaft of the Cross is a carving of the Virgin and Child.

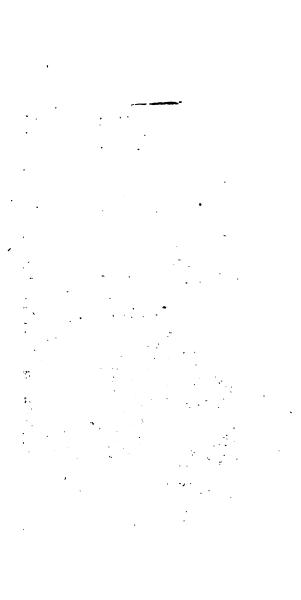
That in this part of the country there have been abundant erections similar to the one under consideration, cannot be doubted, since almost every village exhibits, at the present period, fragments, at least, of such; but no other specimen remains to shew us the style and perfect finish of these subjects; and the first sentiment rising in the mind is, how has it escaped the ravages of time, and how has it been shielded from the mischiefs of fanaticism? That it escaped the latter is most extraordinary, since the fury of the puritans was especially pointed against all sculptures of such subjects.

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CLEE, OR CLEA CHURCH,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

CLEE is a small village in the wapentake of Bradley Haverstoc, in the division of Lindsey, situated about a mile south-east of Grimsby, and nearly the same distance from the south-west shore of the Humber; it is remarkable for its very ancient Church, the nave of which is a curious piece of ancient architecture; it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, by Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, in the time of Richard I. in 1192, as is expressed by a Latin inscription in Saxon characters, cut on a piece of marble, and inlaid in a square compartment on the shaft of a circular column. This bishop was so much in repute for his sanctity, that after his death he was canonized by Honorius III. in 1921. He was a native of Grenoble, and one of the most illustrious prelates of the church of England in the reigns of Richard I. and king John. His virtue gained him great reverence from the people of his diocese, who were particularly afraid of his excommunications, having, as they thought, observed, that those who lay under that censure seldom failed of being visited in this world with some calamity. It is related as an instance of the zeal and resolution of this prelate, that by his own authority he ordered to be re-

CLRE CHURCH:

moved out of the church of Godstow in Oxfordshire, the tomb of Rosamond, mistress to Henry II. which stood in the middle of the choir, hung with black velvet, and wax tapers about it. Though he was informed that the tomb was placed there by the king's order, he contended that he ought not to suffer it, saying it was a shameful thing that the tomb of such a woman should stand in so honourable a place. He died about the year 1200 at London; and being brought to Lincoln for interment at the time when that city was honoured with the presence of the kings of England and Scotland, the two monarchs went out to meet the body, and for some time hore the coffin upon their shoulders.

Clee Church consists of a nave, which has a middle and two side aisles, a cross aisle, a small chancel, and a pretty good square tower at the west end. The whole of the edifice is very small, the dimensions being as follow: the length of the nave thirty-seven feet, the width of the middle aisle eighteen feet, the south aisle thirteen feet, and the northern one eleven feet; the length of the transcept fifty-four feet, its width sixteen feet, and the extent of the chancel thirty feet by eighteen. The south aisle of the nave part is separated from the middle by two circular arches, decorated with zigzag, cable, and billet mouldings, these spring from one circular column and two demi-clusteredones, which have rude Norman capitals and ponderous square bases. The north aisle is separated by three smaller simicircular arches, one ornamented like



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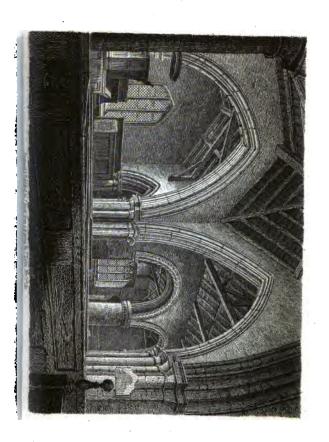
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those on the south, the other two quite plain; these are sustained by square pillars with shafts of twisted and other ornamental work, sunk in every angle. The font consists simply of two plain cylindrical stones placed upon each other, the top one being hollowed into a basin sufficiently large to answer the purpose of immersion. The rest of the building is the heavy-pointed architecture, with clustered columns, the workmanship very good, and the materials durable. No sepulchral monuments are to be met with in this building, except part of a stone sometime inlaid with brass prefixed to the side of a pillar; but in the porch lie four large flat stones, above which upon the wall is an inscription in old church text.

The custom of strewing the interior of the Church with green grass, mown for the express purpose, is here observed every Trinity Sunday, and a small piece of land which has been let for upwards of a century past for the trivial sum of thirteen shillings per annum, is said to have been left by a maiden lady that the performance of this ceremony might be annually observed to the honour of the Blessed and Holy Trinity.

The manor of Clee belongs to the mayor and corporation of the ancient borough of Grimsby.

A mile eastward is Clee Thorpe, a township composed chiefly of fishermen's huts; here is however a spacious and excellent bathing hotel, at present well conducted, and frequented during the summer months by

CLER CHURCH.

genteel families and fashionable company; it commands fine views of the river Humber, the opposite shore, the Spurn point, and German ocean.

About one mile to the westward is the site of Weelsby, or Wellow-Weelsby—a few scattered stumps of trees, and traces of foundations overgrown with herbage, are the only vestiges of this considerable village.



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BURTON PEDWARDINE CHURCH,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BURTON Pedwardine is a small village in the hundred of-Ashwardburn, in the parts of Hesteven, and county of Lincoln, about four miles distant from Sleaford, containing, by the return of 1801, ninety-four resident inhabitants only; it is a vicarage, valued in .the king's books at £7:12:8, and a few years past was remarkable for a beautiful parish church, composed of a nave, chancel, north transcept, and a tower, the latter closing the intersection of the other parts; this structure however became an instance of the mutability to which all sublunary things are subject, by sinking into the state represented in the annexed Engraving. The sketch from which the Print is taken was made in May 1802, subsequent to which there has been raised with part of the materials of the ruin a small indifferent building, for the performance of divine worship.

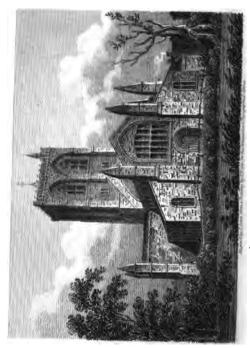
Burton Pedwardine formed part of the large estates of Alan de Crean or Craon, who was of the noble family of Anjou, and the most illustrious in France of those who came into England with William the Conqueror. Of this family Stukeley has given a genealogy, commencing with Andrew de Craon, who lived about A. D. 940. The

BURTON PEDWARDING CHURCH.

estate by marriage came to Roger de Pedwardine the second, who built the Church and St. Mary's chapel on the north side; but the south aisle and St. Nicholas's chapel were built at the expense of the parish.

To Wm. Brand, esq. of Boston, the Proprietors of this Work are indebted for the drawings of the Stone Stalls at Leverton, the Font at Bennington, Richmond Tower, near Boston, and Burton Pedwardine Church and likewise for the descriptive particulars which accompany those plates. THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIERARY

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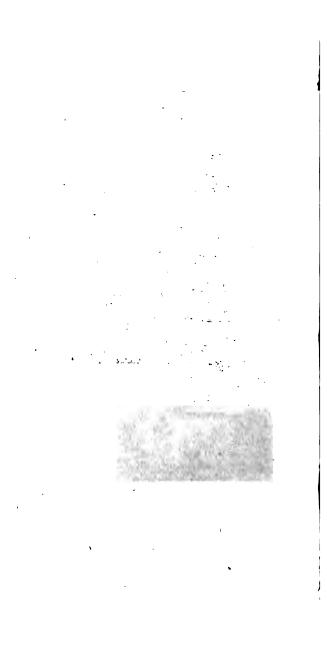
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GREAT GRIMSBY CHURCH,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

THERE were formerly two churches at Grimsby; that of St. Mary has long since been demolished: St. James's is the subject of the accompanying Views. It is a ponderous pile, consisting of a nave, transcept, and choir, with a centre tower, very peculiar and elegant in its construction, each face being broken into two pointed recesses, in which are inserted the belfry windows: the parapet is of beautiful tracery, but not perforated; the angles have evidently supported pinnacles, which are now destroyed; the bases are yet perfect. At the southwest corner stands a turret, covering the staircase, over the door of which is this inscription, in old church text: " Pra for ye soulle of Ihon hemperynga," This personage, according to Gervas Holles, was born here, in the reign of Henry IV, and contributed largely to the revenues of the Church. The height of the tower is eightyeight feet: it is supported by four octagonal pillars, whose sides are sunk into trefoil-headed compartments. The nave consists of a middle and side aisles: the middle one, measured from centre to centre of the separating pillars, is twenty-five feet three inches; each side aisle is seventeen feet three inches; making the whole breadth

fifty-nine feet nine inches: the length is eighty-six feet. This part of the Church is fitted up for divine service. The aisles are formed by six pointed arches, supported by strong clustered columns: above these, is a range of pointed recesses, resting upon light clustered columns. The west window has been very elegant, but the present mullions do not appear to be the original ones: it once contained a curious picture of stained glass, representing the several kings of Judah, branching off from the stem of Jesse. In the middle aisle are several stones, with mutilated inscriptions, and others that have been, in former times, lavishly ornamented with plates of brass: a very large stone figure of a knight in armour. his head and feet resting upon a lion couchant, of uncouth sculpture, had been a moveable piece of furniture in this Church time' out of memory; it has, however, lately been fixed upon an oblong heap of stones, near the south-east door, by some masons, who were repairing the Church. This figure is generally called Old Grim (who, as will be hereafter noticed, is supposed to have been the first inhabitant of this district); but, notwithstanding this common appellation, it is proved to be the effigy of sir Thomas Haselerton, who re-edified the nunnery of St. Leonard, in the reign of Henry IH. and probably removed to this Church at the time that monastery was dissolved. The transcept is in length eighty-seven feet, and twenty-two feet ten inches wide. The chancel is at present thirty-one feet long, but was

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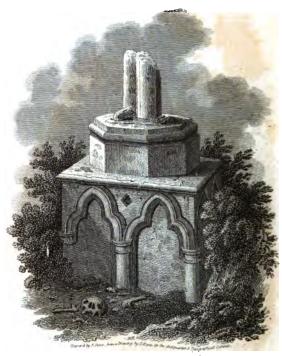
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formerly of much greater extent, part of it having fallen about the year 1600. This, as well as some other parts of the structure, is of Norman architecture. The living of Grimsby is a vicarage: the presentation is in the Heneage family.

In the churchyard are the remains of a cross: on digging about it, a short time since, the basement was discovered considerably below the surface of the earth.

Grimsby is a very ancient borough and seaport: it is said to derive its name from Havloc Gryme, whose traditional history is as follows:-This Gryme came in a vessel up the Humber, from Souldburg, and landed at or near the place where the town of Grimsby now stands, which was then a sort of island, formed by the waters of the river or swamps connected with it. fixed his residence, and built a hut. The commodious situation of the place, upon the Humber, brought foreign vessels to visit it, and Havloc, with those who had joined him, engaged in mercantile transactions to such an extent that the place became shortly of considerable importance; and Havloc, having acquired great riches, spent the remainder of his life in the town which he had thus established. One principal step to his advancement is said to have been a successful exertion to save the lives of a Danish prince and princess: by this, he obtained important privileges for his town; one of these, whatever was its origin, is still preserved. Every ship belonging to Grimsby, whose captain is a burgess

of the town, is free from all tolls and port charges at Elaineur.

However this story respecting Gryme may be ridiculed by Camden, it is certainly countenanced by impressions from the ancient corporation seal, and the existing privilege already named.

Holles is of opinion that this town was founded by some Norwegian pirate; and Macpherson observes, in the Annals of Commerce, that Grimsby is noted, by the Norwegian or Islandic writers, as an emporium resorted to by merchants from Norway, Scotland, and the western islands.

This town had a mayor in the reign of king John, and has sent two members to parliament ever since the time of Edward I. which is the earliest period of cities and boroughs returning members. Grimsby appears to have been of considerable importance in the time of Richard I. for that monarch, in 1190, by the advice of many of his lords, made a maritime ordinance at this place. King John granted the town many exemptions from tolls and customs, which were confirmed by succeeding monarchs. By an order dated October 23, in the fourteenth year of Henry VII. the election of the mayor and bailiffs was fixed to be taken on the Tuesday next ensuing the exaltation of the Holy Cross, and the Tuesday next the feast of St. Michael the Archangel: they were to remain in office for one year. This order is still continued. A very singular ordinance appears

upon record in the year 1595, which obliges the mayorand his eleven brethren, likewise the other twenty-four members of the body corporate, to sit in the chancel of the Church on Sundays and holidays, in decent apparel, otherwise to forfeit 3s, 4d. Their wives were enjoined the same attendance, to be there also in decent apparel. A similar order appears in 1636, when the forfeiture fornon-attendance was, an alderman ls. and the rest of the body 6d. each, for every neglect. According to a very ancient tenure, the lord of the manor of Bradley, an adjoining village, was obliged to provide yearly, a wild boar, to be hunted in Bradley Woods, for the diversion of the mayor and burgesses of Great Grimsby.: hence, it is said, originated the arms of the town, three boars' heads. This diversion, however, has been long since laid aside.

Stow relates, that John Walsh, a native of this place, being accused of high treason by a gentleman of Navarre, did, on St. Andrew's day, according to the savage custom of the times, engage with his accuser in single combat, and having refuted the charge by victory, his traducer was hanged for false accusation.

Grimsby was originally defended by a castle, that stood on a rising ground, known by the name of Holm Hill. The town was, in former times, extremely rich and populous, carrying on considerable trade with the northern countries: at what period its commerce began to decline cannot now be ascertained; it is certain that

the harbour, from disuse, became nearly choked with sand, and the once active seaport dwindled into little better than a solitary village, till a few years since, when its spirit began to revive, in consequence of the improvement of the harbour, and the construction of a dock, capable of receiving vessels of 700 tons burden. This work was commenced in 1796, and completed at the expense of £75,000.

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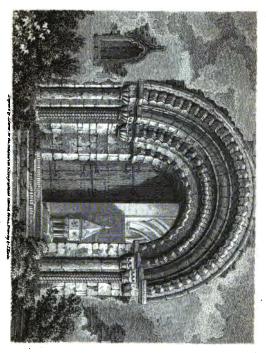
LINCOLNSHIRE.

Stow, though now but a small village, is an archdeaconry, its jurisdiction comprehending the whole division of Lindsey. It is about ten miles north-west from Lincoln, and is supposed by many authors to have been the ancient Sidnacester, though others have contended against this opinion. Mr. Britton, upon reviewing the controversies on this subject, says, " The reasonings of bishop Gibson for placing Sidnacester at Stow, are the strongest of any hitherto adduced; and his conclusion, if not decisive, extremely plausible. Eadnorth, the bishop of Sidnacester, who died A. D. 1050, built St. Mary's, or the church of Our Lady, at Stow. 'Where then can we ' imagine,' says Gibson, ' a bishop of Sidnacester should so probably build a church as at Sidnacester? or whence should be sooner take his pattern or platform than from ' his own cathedral of Dorchester?'-The see of Legecester, or Leicester, is concluded to have been where St. Margaret's now stands; and as that is a peculiar, - a prebend, and an archdeaeonry, so is Stow. Besides. the present ecclesiastical privileges of this place are greater than any hereabouts, except Lincoln, and they have formerly even exceeded that. For that it was famous

before Lincoln, and was a bishop's see, is beyond dispute; and it is a common notion in those parts, both of learned and unlearned, that Stow was the mother church to Lincoln."—According to Bede, Paulinus, after converting the Northumbrians, came into the northern part of the kingdom of Mercia; successful in preaching the Gospel here, he converted Blaecca, the governor of Lincolonia, or Lincoln, and baptized many people of this district in the river Trent. Paulinus having established a kind of spiritual dominion, ordained a bishop; one of whose successors, as before observed, built St. Mary's, or the church of Our Lady, in Stow.

This church is a large structure, in the form of a eross; the exterior exhibits altogether an indifferent appearance, being built of ordinary materials: to conceal this defect, or to preserve it from the injuries of the weather, the walls have been, at different periods, covered with plaster. However, notwithstanding this unfavourable general appearance, some parts of the fabric are highly interesting to the antiquary. The western entrance is a fine specimen of Saxon architecture, the circular arches are richly ornamented with the mouldings peculiar to that age; on each side they were supported by three retiring columns, with sculptured shafts, some of which are now broken away. This door is six feet six inches in width, and seven feet in height: in the wall, on its north side, is a recess, with a cinque-foil head; in this probably stood a statue of the Blessed Virgin, to whom the

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church was dedicated. The south entrance, which is sheltered by a wooden parch, exhibits a more splendid display of Saxon ornament, together with a massive grandeur that renders it peculiarly striking. The pillars that sustained this arch have long since submitted to relentless time: their places are now occupied by brickwork of many years standing. This door is six feet wide, and from the threshold to the impost seven feet three inches. On the north side of the church is a doorway of very inferior dimensions to those just mentioned, but the ornamental parts are equally well executed; the original aperture has been walled up, and a very small obtuse pointed. opening left as its substitute; most of the arch is obscured. from view by a formal porch, which is omitted in the accompanying Vignette, in order to afford a representation of the whole. The church has an embattled tower, that anpears of more modern date than any other part of the building. This tower is a very plain piece of workmanship, contracting as it advances in height; it is supported by polygonal buttresses or pillars, built against the Saxon columns, with pointed arches in front of the circular ones; probably the original covering of this part was only a lanthorn, and required little strength to support it: when, however, a large heavy tower was to be erected, it became necessary to have a more substantial foundation; therefore the inner pillars, with their pointed arches, and the present tower, must be considered as coeval. The nave and transcepts are without side aisles, as is also the.

chancel. The former have plain flat walls, without ornament; the latter has a circular headed arcade, running along both sides and the east end; these have been supported by circular-columns; few of them are now remaining: the east end contains eight recesses, seven of which are of one size; that at the north-east corner is considerably smaller: the arches are carved with a sigzag frieze, excepting one near the centre, which is ornamented with embossments; on the north side are thirteen recesses, and on the south fourteen, making in the whole thirty-five. Against each side-wall are two clusters of columns, which are continued above the tops of the lower windows, and are surmounted with Saxon capitals: these have given rise to a conjecture, that they once supported a stone vaulting, but no traces of this exist; nor is there any appearance of work of any kind having been attached to the walls above these pillars: it is more probable that the capitals once formed corbels for a roof of timber; for as the walls are composed of bad materials, and strengthened only with external butments, projecting but a few inches from them, it may be fairly concluded that they never were sufficiently strong to support a roof of stone. The chancel is lighted on each side by three fine circular-headed windows, the two end ones on the south side are enriched with a bold embattled friese; that in the middle is surrounded by a zigzag; those on the north side are exactlythe reverse, the middle one being embattled, and the twoothers ornamented with the zigzag moulding, so that, in



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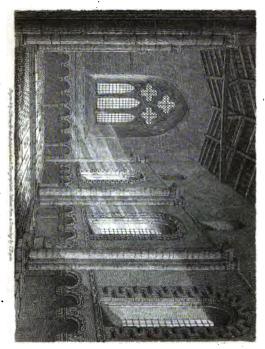
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traversing round, they become alternate. The east window is pointed, the upper part pierced with three quatrefoils, the lower divided into three lights by two very clumsy mullions. Against the south wall is a small monument, with this inscription:

"Neare unto this place lysth buried the bodyes of Mr. Thos. Holbech, that sometyme dwelt in Stowe Parke, with Anne his wife, daughter of Anthony Yoxley, of Mellis, Esq. which said Anne deceased the 7th day of Sept. An. Dom. 1581, and the sd. Thos. deced. the 16th day of Aprill, 1591. And they left issue one only son, named Edward."

On the floor is an ancient monument, of coffin shape, with a half bust in a circular excavation; round the edge, in a border, are these letters:

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Two or three monuments of a similar kind lie in different parts of the church, but their inscriptions are totally obliterated. Against the pillar that supports the tower on the north-east corner is a plate of copper or brass, on which is engraved as follows:

" ASPICE, RESPICE, PROSPICE.

"In this channel lyeth ye bodies of Richard Burgh, of Stowe-hall, Esq. and Anne his wife, descended fm. the sact. & noble familie of the Lord Burgh, Biron of Galashorough, & next beyr made of that familie; & the sd. Ame was the eldest daughter of Anthonie Dillington, of Knighton, in ye Isle of Wight, Esq.; hall 4 sons, viz. that noble and valiant soldyer Sir John Burgh, Collonel Gen'sell of his Mitjs. forces to the Isle of Rhe; in France, where he was slaine, A.D. 1697."

"The transcepts are separate from the nave by a screen of indifferent workmanship, and most probably were anciently used as chapels; they have each a plain circular window at the end; the windows throughout the church possess no remains of painted glass. The dimensions of this ancient fabric are as follow: interior length of the whole building one hundred and forty-six feet, length of the chancel fifty feet, width twenty-four, length of the transcept eighty-six feet, width twenty-four: the breadth of the nave is twenty-eight feet. Within the church, under the tower, was a large tablet, inscribed, in old letters, M,CCC, H. The font, though of considerable antiquity, is evidently of more recent date than the church; and as Mr. Gough, in his Additions to Camden, seems of opinion, that some of the rude figures in the west front of Lincoln cathedral, were removed from a more ancient edifice; it may likewise be within the range of probability that the old marble font, now standing in a chapel of that cathedral, might once have been an appendage to the mother church of Stew. The present font

STOW.

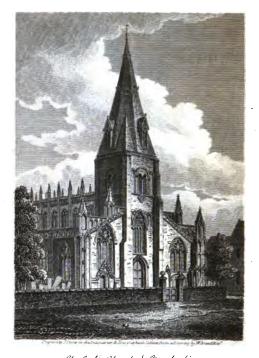
in Stow church stands upon a platform, ascended by two steps; its base is square, having sculptured upon it the figure of a dragon, intended as a personification of Satan, and alluding to his defeat by the virtue of Christian baptism. The shaft is circular, surrounded by eight short pillars, with capitals foliated. The upper part is octangular, with a device on each face. Near the church is the re-



North Door of Stow Church Lincoln th

STOW.

mains of a quadrangular moat, which it is conjectured surrounded either the old manor-house, or a palace of the bishop. It is certain that the bishops had, in former times, a palace in this parish, some records being still preserved, with the signature of the diocesan at his palace of Stow. THE NIEW
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SLEAFORD CHURCH,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

SLEAFORD, in the division of Kesteven and county of Lincoln, is a neat little town, distant from the metropolis 116 miles. It stands on the banks of a small but rapid river, which springs from the rocks about two miles west of the town. A castle was built at Sleaford in the year 1135, by Alexander bishop of Lincoln; little of it now remains. In this fortress king John sickened, after the loss of his army in the Lincolnshire washes, in proceeding to Newark, where he died. The market-place is a handsome square, in which converge four streets: on its eastern side stands the Church. According to a memorandum found in the parish chest, the Church was built by Roger Blunt and Roger Brinkham of Sleaford, merchants, in 1271, being endowed and dedicated to St. Dennis, in 1277. From some architectural remains under the belfry on the west, it is conjectured that this part of the edifice was built upwards of a century before the time above mentioned. "The interior dimension of the Church from east to west, including the chancel, is 154 feet, the breadth of the former sixty-four, and the latter twentyfive feet; the north transcept is twenty-seven feet in length and twenty-four broad, without pillars; this is

SLEAFORD CHURCH.

now partitioned off from the Church and used as a schoolroom. The body of the Church consists of three aisles; the roof over the middle aisle is forty-eight feet above the pavement; it does not appear ever to have been ceiled, the girders and other parts of the frame-work being neatly moulded, and the intersections closed by handsome embossments: it is supported by six slender columns. The windows in the side aisles are highly pointed; these over the middle aisles quick at the spring, but fall abruptly into inclined planes of small elevation, forming obtuse angles: the south window in the belfry is of the Moorish taste, the segment exceeding a semicircle,"—The height of the spire is 144 feet.

This beautiful Church suffered much during the civil wars in the time of Charles I. THE NAME OF THE PARTY OF THE PA



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ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MIDDLE RASEN,

LINCOLNSHIRE,

Is a considerable village, standing about a mile westward of Market Rasen, and nearly a like distance from West Rasen. It is divided into two parishes, distinguished by the different appellations of Tupholm and Drax, each of which has its own church: the former, dedicated to St. Peter, is a good building, with a beautiful Norman entrance on the south, recently cleaned and protected from the weather by the rev. John Robinson, the present vicar, who deserves much praise for his endeavours to preserve this beautiful piece of ancient architecture. is circular, ornamented with zigzag, nailhead, and other mouldings, and a beautiful embattled frieze. The church is small, and consists of an embattled tower at the west end, a nave, and chancel, without aisles, though it is evident there has been one on the north side, as the pillars and pointed separating arches yet stand in relief from the wall. The chancel is divided from the nave by some elegant screen-work beneath a pointed arch, supported by Norman circular pillars, perhaps coeval with the south doorway: the east window is regularly pointed, and filled with good tracery; the others, excepting those that have suffered from modern

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, MIDDLE RASEN.

innovations, have triangular heads. Two stones lie in the chancel, with mutilated legends, and against the north wall is a small but well-executed modern monument, to the memory of J. Dixon, esq. his wife Leoticia, and three children.

Both the prior and convent of Drax, and the abbot and convent of Tupholm, in Lincolnshire, laying claim to the appropriation of the church of St. Peter, a contest ensued about the tithes of corn and hay, arising out of six oxgangs and a half of land called Germayn Land, and the fee of John Paganal, within the limits of the tithing of this parish; but they agreed that two parts of the tithe of Germayn Land shall be paid to the abbot and convent of Tupholm, and that the prior and canons of Drax should have a third thereof.

From this decision, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the two churches, as well as parishes, obtained those names, which they have kept from that time to the present period.

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RASEN BRIDGE,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

THERE are three villages named Rasen, nearly adjoining each other, and situated upon the Rase, a small stream, from which they derive their names, and whose source is in the adjoining parish of Tealby; after giving motion to several paper and corn mills, it falls into the Ancholm at a very ancient stone bridge, called Bishop Briggs (Bishop Bridge), about ten miles from its commencement. This Bridge was probably erected by one of the bishops of Lincoln, who, it is supposed, held the demesne lands belonging to the neighbouring village of Bishop Norton; two others, over the same stream, are doubtless of equal antiquity, being exactly of corresponding architecture, and similar workmanship throughout; but, in particular, with regard to the vaulting of the arches; the curious materials for the whole was evidently the production of the same quarry; this is a kind of hard sand-stone, containing strata of various marine shells; those of the oyster the most numerous, some of which are uncommonly large. One of these antique structures is over the Rase at West Rasen, but that which is the most picturesque, and represented in the accompanying Print, stands across the same rivulet, nearly in the centre of

RASEN BRIDGE.

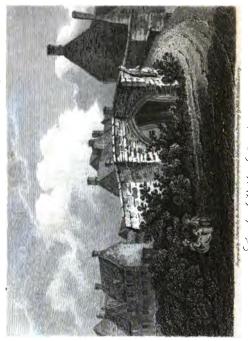
the middle village. The church at Market Rasen is of the same material, but contains little to attract the eye of the antiquary. The living, a vicarage, is in the gift of the crown, and the vicar is entitled, amongst other things, to the tythe of ale.

Here is a free school for the instruction of a certain number of boys; the endowment is about £18 yearly, exclusive of a school-house.

Sir George St. Paul, of Snarford, near this place, by his will, dated 13th of October 1612, gave £40 yearly for ever out of certain lands in the county of Lincoln for the maintenance of eight poor men, and also £100 to build an hospital in Market Rasen for their residence, and left that work to be performed by dame lady Frances St. Paul, afterwards countess of Warwick, who, a few years subsequent, carried the design into execution; she also, at her own cost, furnished four outward rooms and four inward rooms with necessaries proper for its inhabitants, and an upper chamber for such as might be ill, together with another upper room furnished with desks, tables, and chairs, and put certain books therein, causing the same to be chained with iron chains, to remain for the use of the minister and schoolmaster of the parish. The original almshouse is yet standing.

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CROYLAND BRIDGE.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

"CROYLAND is one of the islands in that track of East Marshlands which, rising from the centre of the kingdom, runs upwards of 100 miles, and discharges itself, with its waters augmented by many rivers, into the sea. The island is formed by the waters of Shepishee on the east, Nene on the west, Southee on the south, and Asendyk on the north:" it comprehends a track four leagues in length and three in breadth.

This place was first inhabited by an anchorite, who retired from a successful profession of arms to lead a life of devotion: in process of time a church was built here in honour of the hermit, who was then dignified with the title of saint.

Croyland is chiefly remarkable for its sumptuous abbey, which gave rise to the town, the abbot being permitted by the charter of Ethelbald, who founded the monastery, to build a town for the convenience of the monks.

The famous Bridge of Croyland is accounted one of the greatest curiosities in Europe. It is said to have been built under the direction of the abbots, for no particular use that is now apparent, but merely to display the skill

CROYLAND BRIDGE.

of the architect, and to excite the admiration of travellers and pilgrims who visited the abbey of Croyland for devotional purposes. It stands in a bog, and though great sums must have been expended in its erection, yet its ascent is so steep that neither carriages nor horsemen can pass over it. The form is triangular, rising from three segments of a circle and meeting in a point at the top; the arches are pointed, and the whole is in good preservation. STOUCHE AGER



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STATUE OF ETHELBALD ON CROYLAND BRIDGE.

a mutiny excited by Beornred, a nobleman, who was proclaimed king in his stead by the soldiery. This election, which was made without due authority, gave great offence to the Mercian nobility; and therefore, before the new king could establish his authority, he was deposed, and succeeded by Offa, the nephew of Ethelbald.

The Statue of Ethelbald was probably erected soon after the completion of Croyland Bridge, as he was held in great esteem by the abbots and monks. The figure is in a sitting posture, on the south-west wing of the Bridge opposite to the London road; it has a crown fleury on its head and a globe in its hand, expressive no doubt of universal sway—a most extravagant compliment, as extensive dominton was a thing to which Ethelbald certainly had no pretensions.

STATUE OF ETHELBALD ON CROYLAND BRIDGE,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

ETHELBALD, who has been noticed in the preceding article as the founder of Croyland abbey, was more illustrious than any of the princes who had preceded him on the throne of Mercia. While presumptive heir to the erown, being persecuted by the reigning prince, he came weary and almost exhausted to Guthlac, his confessor. who resided at Groyland; from him he received ghostly comfort, and assurances of finally succeeding to his wishes: in return Ethelbald promised, upon his advancement, to erect a monastery on the spot. The holy man died soon after: but still mindful of the concerns of his friend, he appeared to him at Croyland after his death, and admonished him of their mutual engagements. Ethelbald, who was also chosen king of Wessex in the room of Ina, who had turned monk, exercised the regal authority beyond the limits of the former kings, and became by this means very formidable to the neighbouring kingdoms; for which reason they agreed to attack him on either side of his dominions: thus being obliged to divide his forces, was vanquished. No other particulars of this war are recorded by historians; but it appears, that about four years after the above-mentioned defeat, he was killed in

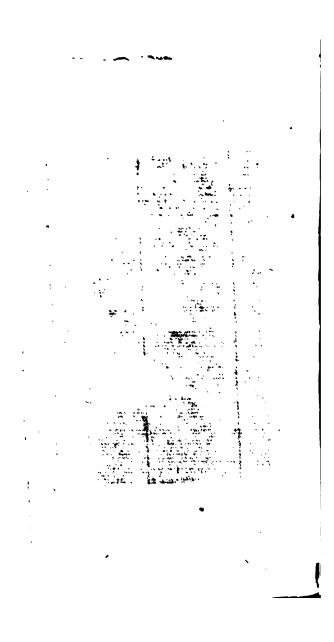


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RICHMOND TOWER, NEAR BOSTON,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

RICHMOND Tower, commonly named Kyme or Kime Tower, after a respectable family who long resided in it, a branch of the noble family of the de Kimes, is situated about two miles east from Boston, in the county of Lincoln, by the inhabitants of which town it has long been frequented, being seated in a fine wooded plat, affording the most pleasant shade, and agreeable walks; it has lately been stripped of the whole of this timber. The annexed View represents the buildings as they appeared when embosomed in their Silvan honours; all that at present remains of the baronial domain is the Tower or keep, which is the principal object in the engraving, and the gable to the right of it, the latter conjectured to have been the chapel. The Tower is of brick, and quadrangular, having an octagon turret on its south-east angle, containing a circular flight of stairs communicating with the superior apartments, of which there are three, exclusive of the platform or top, which is covered with lead, and enclosed with an embattled parapet; the other three angles are terminated with neat embattled turrets, affording a secure and commodious station to those who choose to indulge

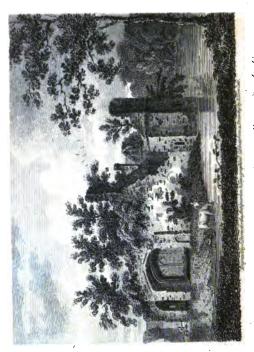
RICHMOND TOWER, NEAR BOSTON.

in viewing a district as beautiful and rich as any in this country: the ground floor is secured by strong groined vaultings unconnected with the stairs first mentioned, and was probably used as a dungeon.

The estate was formerly a part of the honours of Richmond, and a small portion of vast possessions held in the neighbourhood of it by Margaret, countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII. but at this time (1811) acknowledging the dean and chapter of Westminster as its lords: the present tenant, Mr. John Ayre, is a descendant by the maternal line of the family first mentioned.

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BELLEAU.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BELLEAU, so called from its springs of very clear water, which issue near each other from the bottom of a chalk hill, where stands the ruins of a seat which formerly belonged to the earls of Lindsey.

After the civil wars it was sequestered to sir Henry Vane, who, during his residence here, employed himself on Sundays in preaching to his country neighbours. Henry was an active partisan in the time of the English commonwealth, and one of the heads of the independents. After the restoration, he was exempted in the act of indemnity assented to by the king both as to life and estate: but notwithstanding this exception, he had credit sufficient to prevail with the very parliament which condemned him, to petition the king in his favour, which petition was granted: nevertheless he was kept in prison, and on the meeting of a new parliament they petitioned that he might be brought to trial, and though Charles had promised a pardon to all but the late king's judges, and spared his life at the request of the former parliament, yet in this instance, as in many others, he violated his promise, and suffered him to be executed as a traitor. The government were so apprehensive that he would insist

BELLEAU.

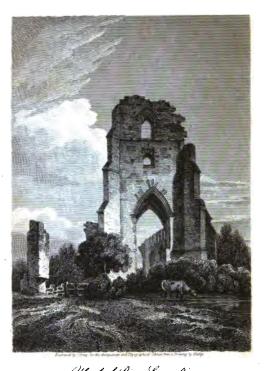
To the injustice of their proceedings against him on the scaffold, that they placed a great number of drummers near it, who, upon a signal given when he began to speak, struck up with their drums, and prevented his being heard.

The estate is at present possessed by lord Gwydir, in right of his lady, the baroness Willoughby de Eresby, and sister and co-hairess of Robert, late duke of Ancaster.

The View here given exhibits the remains of this ancient seat, as it appeared in the year 1794, being converted into stables, and used for other purposes, by the farmer who occupies the house adjoining.

The church, which is situated on an eminence near the ruins, has a low tower, and is of some antiquity; it belonged anciently to the neighbouring monastery of Ailby.

Belieau is situated three miles from Alford, a small market town in the division of Lindsey, in the county of Lincoln. THE NEW YORK FUBLIC LINES AT ACTOR LONG TO A



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The standard revery sequestered and restineque, Agrather large out all times rapid, brook, flows through it, valley, and it is the distance below the Priory. Thus, with another stream that skirts the Priory, will make it in a different direction, served amply to apply the most, fishpends, &c. with which it was surrounded, and the site of which may still readily be traced.

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ULVERSCROFT PRIORY.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

This Priory was founded, in the early part of the twelfth century, by Robert Bossu, for friars of the order of St. Augustine. Besides the lands given to it by the founder, it had the manor of Carlton Carlew, in this county, twelve messuages and twelve yard-lands in Shenton, the advowsons of the church of Boney, in the county of Nottingham, those of Syston and Radcliff, in the county of Leicester, and at the suppression was valued at £101:3:10.

The site of the Priory is in a deep valley, which lies north and south, nearly through the middle of the lordship. It is surrounded on all sides, except to the south, by high eminences in the forest; but to the south aspect the view is open and extensive, commanding the town of Leicester, and a considerable tract of country around and beyond it.

The situation is very sequestered and picturesque, A rather large (at all times rapid) brook, flows through the valley, and at a little distance below the Priory. This, with another stream that skirts the Priory, still nearer, in a different direction, served amply to supply the moat, fishponds, &c. with which it was surrounded, and the site of which may still readily be traced.

ULVERSCROFT PRIORY.

The tower, which stands on two elevated pointed arches, is, in a good degree, entire, except at one corner, and may be ascended by sixty-three steps, a few only towards the top being deficient. The entrance to the staircase is now very low, the ground having been evidently much raised by rubbish. The south side of the church, and some small ruins on the north, remain: there are also two niches at the farther end of the ruins, which have the appearance of having formerly been stone seats; and the floor of the church consisted of small square tiles, variously marked.

Adjoining to the church, on the south, is the Priory house, now occupied as a farm house: the walls, roof, and other circumstances, evidently prove this to have been part of the original building. A short time since, while making some alteration in one of the rooms, the masons met with a stone fixed in the wall, on which there is reason to believe were engraved the arms and date of the Priory; but which they unfortunately destroyed. A high mouldering wall, with large windows, which joins to the house, and a building which now serves as a barn, from the timbers, and other materials, evidently belonged to the Priory.

The present church door at Thornton, in this neighbourhood, is supposed to have belonged to the church of this Priory at the dissolution.

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THORNTON ABBEY, OR THORNTON COLLEGE.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

MR. T. ESPIN, of Louth, in Lincolnshire, has favoured us with the following account of this Abbey; and to his able pencil we are principally indebted for the drawings from which the accompanying Plates are engraved.

That peninsula in Yorkshire denominated Holderness, was given by William the Conqueror to Drugo de Buerer, a Fleming, on whom he also bestowed his niece in marriage; but this inhuman lord, having destroyed his consort by poison, fled from his possessions, and was succeeded in his estates and titles by Stephen Fitz Odo, lord of Albemarle, in Normandy. On the death of Stephen, his son William, surnamed Le Gross, obtained possession of his estates, established or enriched several religious houses, and among the rest founded Thornton monastery, in Lincolnshire, in the year 1139, as a priory of black canons, and dedicated it to the Blessed Virgin: he died in 1180, and is supposed to have been buried here. The establishment was at first governed by one Richard, a prior, who, together with the monks, were introduced from the

THORNTON ABBRY.

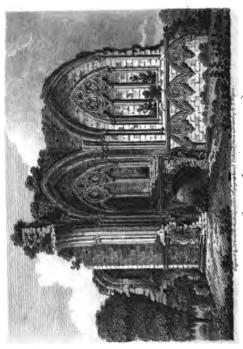
monastery of Kirkham. As a priory it continued but a short period; for having been endowed with many liberal grants from its founder, and other benefactors, it soon began to assume some degree of consequence, and Richard had the satisfaction of soding himself advanced to the dignity of abbot by pope Eugeneus III. in 1148.

The possessions of this Abbey were confirmed by Richard I.; and pope Celestine III. granted its inhabitants exemption from the payment of certain tithes of cattle. The advowson of the Abbey, together with all the lands and possessions of the earl of Albemarle, escheated to Edward I.; and Edward III. in the sixth year of his reign, granted, by advice of his prelates and barons in parliament, that the said abbot should not be obliged to attern to any in case a grant of the said advowson should be made. This abbot was therefore to hold all the lands and possessions immediately of Edward III. and in case any grant was made of the advowson, he was not to become subject to the grantee, but hold it by a previous and superior title; i. s. immediately from the crows.

In 1541 Henry VIII. took a journey into the morth, on pretence of quelting some discontents among his subjects, but more particularly to have an interview with his nephew, the young king of Scotland, at York; in this, however, he was disappointed. On his return with his queen and retinue, he crossed the Humber from Hull to Barrow, in Lincolnshire, and honoured the Abbey of

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Thornton with a ceremonious visit: the whole monastery came out in solemn procession to meet the royal guests. and sumptuously entertained them for several successive days: this might probably be a skilful manœuvre of the abbot to evade that impending storm which threatened destruction to his own, as well as every other monastic institution in the kingdom: nor did it entirely lose its effect; for Henry appears to have had some little degree of computation, on reflecting upon the flattering attention here paid him; and though at the dissolution its suppression took place with the rest, the greater part of its revenues were preserved for the endowment of a college. which was established at this place for a dean and prebendaries, to the honour of the Holy and undivided Trinity. This college, however, was of very short duration; it experienced a total suppression by Edward VI. in 1547, and was granted in exchange to the bishop of Lincoln; its members, however, were not left entirely destitute of support; for, according to Willis, nineteen of them were allowed pensions in 1553.

At the dissolution it was valued, according to Dugdale, at £594:17:10; and £730:17:2 by Speed. Dugdale and Tanner have preserved the following list of its abbots:

THORNTON ABBRY.

From Dugdale.	Continued by Tanner-
Richard 1148	Thomas Gresham 1363
Phillip 1152	Wm. Multon (elder) 1393
Thomas 1175	Geffry Burton 1422
John Benton 1184	John Hoton 1439
Jordan de Villa 1203	William Multon 1443
Richard de Villa 1223	William Medley 1473
Robert 1245	John Beverley 1492
William Lyncoln 1257	John Louth 1517
Walter Hotoft 1273	John More 1526
Thomas de Ponte 1290	

From the present remains it may justly be concluded, that it once exhibited very great magnificence as well as strength: it originally consisted of an extensive quadrangle nearly approaching to a square, surrounded by a deep ditch and an exceeding high rampart; thus it was admirably adapted as a place of defence against piratical plunderers, to whose ravages its contiguity with the Humber and German Ocean perhaps often exposed it.

The gate-house, which formed the western and probably the only entrance, is tolerable entire, truly majestic, and well calculated for defensive operations. The entrance road crossing the ditch is flanked by cemented brick walls, with fourteen loop-holed recesses on each side; these support broad embattled parapets, now covered with vegetation, and terminate with two strong round towers, once crowned with frowning battlements, but now PUBLIC LIERARY



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THORNTON ABBEY.

softened into beauty by creeping evergreens: between these towers was once a drawbridge, which formed the first security. The grand entrance arch is in a good state of preservation, over which is a parapet about four feet broad; a small doorway opens upon this path which leads to a little cell, probably the watchman's lodge: this entrance was made almost impregnable by an immense portcullis; the grooves it once occupied remain as perfect as ever, but the timber is gone to decay; at the other end are the mouldering remnants of two ponderous doors pendant on their massy hinges. The vaulting is ornamented with elegant ribwork springing from fluted bracket imposts, the intersections embossed with flower-work and figures. The face of this entrance, towards the west, presents a formidable aspect, six embattled turrets majestically rise to the summit; the two immediately connected with the entrance arch are octangular until they reach the parapet, when they take an hexagonal form, and have archways for the sake of communication; above these arches they again assume their octagonal shape, and so continue to the top. The next two form the boundaries of the parapet: these are also octagonal, but those that terminate the ends of the building are of a circular construction. Over the gateway, between the two middle turrets, are three long niches; in the lower part of each of these stands a statue under an enriched canopy: the centre one appears to have a regal crown suspended above his head; the figure on hisright is partly in armour, with his hands upon his breast 5

THORRTON ABBRY.

that on his left his mitred, with a pastoral staff: above these, and under other florid canopies, have been threesmaller figures, two of which still remain and seem in the attitude of prayer. Between these turrets and the adjoining are two other similar niches with the same sert of canopies, which doubtless once contained four statues; one only has escaped the ravages of time,

The greater part of this building is brick, but the ornamental parts and some of the turrets are of stone, their embattled tops were probably of the latter materials; but these have chiefly fallen to the ground.

What does not fade? The tower that long had stood. The crush of thunder and the warring winds, Shook by the slow hut sure destroyer, Time, Now hangs in doubtful ruips o'er its base.

ARMSTRONG.

Above the gateway is a spacious room, denominated the refectory, ascended by a winding atone staircase; the window giving light from the east, exhibits the remains of masterly workmanship, and the arch separating it from the room is equally fine: at one corner of this window is a beautiful piscina. Another room has evidently existed above this; two very large half-length corbel figures, that once supported the middle beams, have escaped time's ruthless hand; their distorted countenances bespeak the heavy burden they once supported; but the sculptor has

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The over met charter-house was count to be south part or the chor of its side measures or on a sighteen feet, and consequents in disputer was about force-three feet and a helic trong it e remains of one of its anderous pattresses. It is project the roof was supported without a sense willars. The entrance with from the west, and universe to have computed cated Alth the end of a cloi ter . but the tube in the part we secrees inflicient as substituted the comparate; it is entirely, because, five of connection with the curveby and his or its side were and letely closed; had most no. We she wont with others on advicted the light it wissen, ally decembed, the partial recessor profibers the fore, and the open if a misting end unglesses they of gueroungmaing honney, giope in bille mai by stenger as held of pointed arche . I we bonds are a

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THURRTON ABSET.

endeavoured to alleviate the safferings of one, by ingentously placing a cushion upon his shoulders.

At a considerable distance east of the entrance stands the ruin of the church, consisting of an elegant clustered column and a pointed recess, relieved with tracery; this is partly broken down: below the opening is a very large but plain piscina. These remains, inconsiderable as they are, afford a convincing proof that the whole was a structure of superior elegance, and the foundation, which may in several places be traced, bears sufficient evidence that it was of very extensive dimensions.

The octagonal chaster-house was united to the south part of the church; its side measures exactly eighteen feet, and consequently its diameter was about forty-three feet and a half: from the remains of one of its ponderous buttresses, it is probable that the roof was supported without a centre pillar. The entrance was from the west, and appears to have communicated with the end of a cloister: but the ruips in this part are scarcely sufficient to substantiate the conjecture; it is evident, however, from its connection with the church, that four of its sides were completely closed; and most probably the whole of the other four admitted the light: it was highly decorated, the pointed recesses are finely ramified, and the open windows were unquestionably of corresponding beauty: along each side was an elegant arcade of pointed arches, whose heads are filled with

TROBNTON ABBRY.

trefoil and quatrefoil tracery work, and whose imposts consist of foliated brackets.

A little to the south of these ruins stood the abbot's lodging, once the residence of Edward Skinner, esq. who married Ann, daughter of sir William Wentworth, brother to the unfortunate earl of Stafford: he and his family, with lady Eliza Wentworth, widow of sir William, lie interred in the neighbouring church of Goxhill.

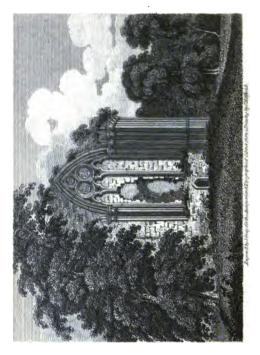
In the Harleian MS, the arms of Mortimer in three shields, having between the two uppermost a pastoral staff, are said to have been the arms of this Abbey. This indicates that the site once belonged to that family, which possession might probably he obtained by the daughter of Roger earl Mortimer, being married to Stephen le Gross, a descendant of the founder.

Edward duke of York, grandson of Edward III. had a grant of the patronage of Thornton Abbey.

Thornton was also part of the estate of Henry Percy, fourth lord Alnwick and first earl of Northumberland, who was slain on Bramham-moor, near Haslewood, Feb. 29, 1407-8, after a sharpfight with the forces of Henry IV.; his head, white with age, was cut off and sent to London, with that of lord Bardolf, who died of his wounds, after being made prisoner: it was there set upon the bridge on a pole, his body was divided into four parts, whereof one was placed upon a gate at London, another at Lincoln, a third at Berwick upon Tweed, and the fourth at Newcastle upon Tyne; but in

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THORNTON ABBEY.

May following they were all taken down, and, by the king's special precept, delivered to his friends to be solemnly buried in consecrated ground.

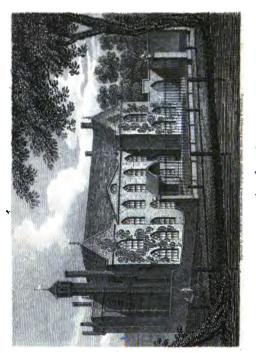
Collins in his Peerage reports, that Thornton was afterwards possessed by Henry, the second earl, son of Hotspur, who, in the thirty-third of Henry VI, on the breaking out of the civil wars between the houses of York and Laucaster, gratefully remembering the good offices and favours conferred on him by Henry V. continued loyal to his son Henry VI. and was a stout assertor of the Lancastrian interest. He was present with the king at Greenwich, on February the 5th, 1454, and being one of the lords of his council, advised the setting at liberty Edmund Beaufort, duke of Somerset, who had been imprisoned in the Tower for more than a year, for his opposition to Richard duke of York, who, when it was made known to him, retired in disgust to Wales, in order to raise forces there, and soon after advanced towards London with a formidable army. The king being informed of his success, met him at St. Alban's, where his army was defeated and himself made prisoner, May 25, 1455. In this engagement the duke of Somerset was slain, and near him fell the heroic earl of Northumberland, who was buried in the abbey church of St. Alban's, with many other noblemen of the Lancastrian party.

At length it came into the possession of the Skinner family, from whom it was purchased by sir R. Sutton, bart. in whose family it continued several years, during

THORNTON ABBEY.

which period it sustained the loss of a striking feature; a noble avenue of venerable trees, which extended from the gateway nearly to the remains of the church. The site of this Abbey adjoins the parish of Thoraton Curtis, distant about five miles from Barton, and for some years was in possession of the family of sir R. Sutton, bart. The present proprietor, G. Uppleby, esq. is a person of considerable taste; he has reserved a private room or two for occasional retreat, and takes great pleasure in preserving the remains of this venerable pile.—Here in sweet retirement the mind may indulge in meditating upon the instability of sublunary greatness, and contemplate, with secret emotion, the wrecks of ostentations grandeur.

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LINCOLNSHIRE.

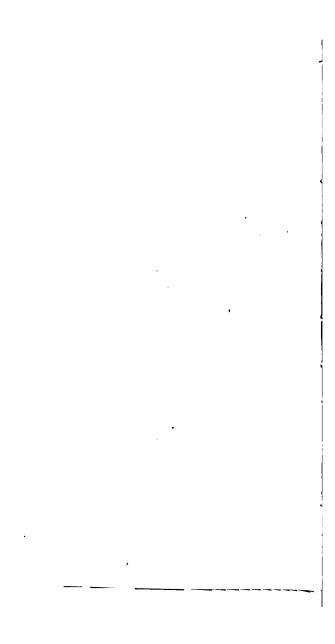
SPALDING, situated in the division of Hessand and county of Lincoln, is 108 miles north from London, and sixteen south from Boston: it is a considerable market-town, has many excellent houses, and enjoys a flourishing trade. The town, which boasts of great antiquity, is particularly indebted to the talent and learning of one of its former inhabitants, Maurice Johnson, esq. an eminent barrister, for his newearied researches into its antiquities, and for handing down to posterity memorials of its ancient consequence.

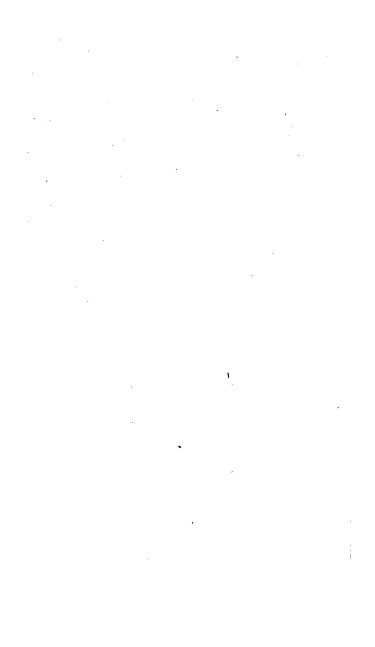
Passing the great road for London, on the left hand, is seen to much advantage across the river, Ayscough Fee Hall, the residence of the rev. Maurice Johnson, D. D. and F. S. A. a descendant of the Maurice Johnson before mentioned. This house was built about 1420 by sir Richard Aldwyn, knt. father to sir Nicholas Aldwyn, knt. lord mayor of London in 1499. The mansion now exhibits scarcely any thing of its original architecture, having been altered at different periods; but its present possessor has, with considerable pains, endeavoured to restore it to its ancient character, uniting at the same time such improvements, as have rendered it equal to the most conve-

AYSCOUGH FRE MALL, SPALDING.

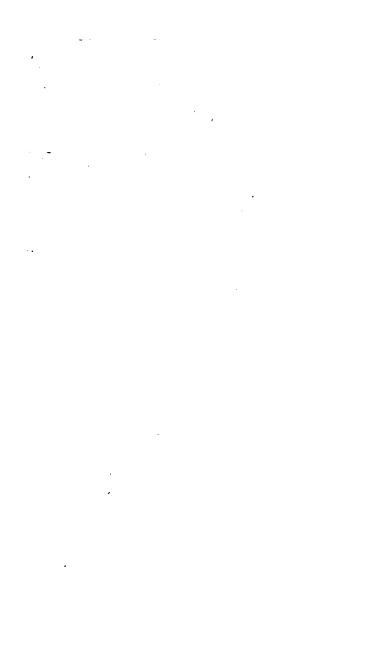
nient and sumptuous houses of our modern gentry. Dr. Johnson possesses a fine collection of pictures and a valuable cabinet of medals and medallions; but the chief curiosities of antiquity here have been doomed by the recent alterations to rust in a garret; these are an assemblage of missile weapons of ponderous weight, in use prior to the invention of gunpowder; they were formerly arranged along the walls of the great hall, and were doubtless the pride of the former possessors of the mansion. It is sincerely to be wished, that the worthy doctor's taste may be extended to the erection of a gallery suitable to the display of this valuable collection, which would assist the historian in his narrative, the antiquary in his research, and prove an excellent study for the painter.







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